

BOTTOM-UP ARCHITECTURE

BRIDGING THE ARCHITECTURE CODE GAP

Oliver Drotbohm

   odrotbohm

 oliver.drotbohm@broadcom.com



Oliver Drotbohm
odrotbohm · he/him

Frameworks & Architecture Engineering
@ VMware, OpenSource enthusiast, all things Spring, Java, data, DDD, REST, software architecture, drums & music.

Edit profile

3.4k followers · 32 following

- VMware
- Dresden, Germany
- 17:49 (UTC +01:00)
- info@odrotbohm.de
- www.odrotbohm.de
- @odrotbohm
- @odrotbohm@chaos.social
- odrotbohm
- in/odrotbohm

Pinned

Customize your pins

xmolecules/jmolecules Public

Libraries to help developers express architectural abstractions in Java code

Java 979 85

xmolecules/jmolecules-integrations Public

Technology integration for jMolecules

Java 48 11

lectures Public

Lecture scripts and slides I use during the Software Engineering course at TU Dresden

Java 68 22

spring-restbucks Public

Implementation of the sample from REST in Practice based on Spring projects

Java 1.2k 404

spring-playground Public

A collection of tiny helpers for building Spring applications

Java 96 10

spring-projects/spring-modulith Public

Modular applications with Spring Boot

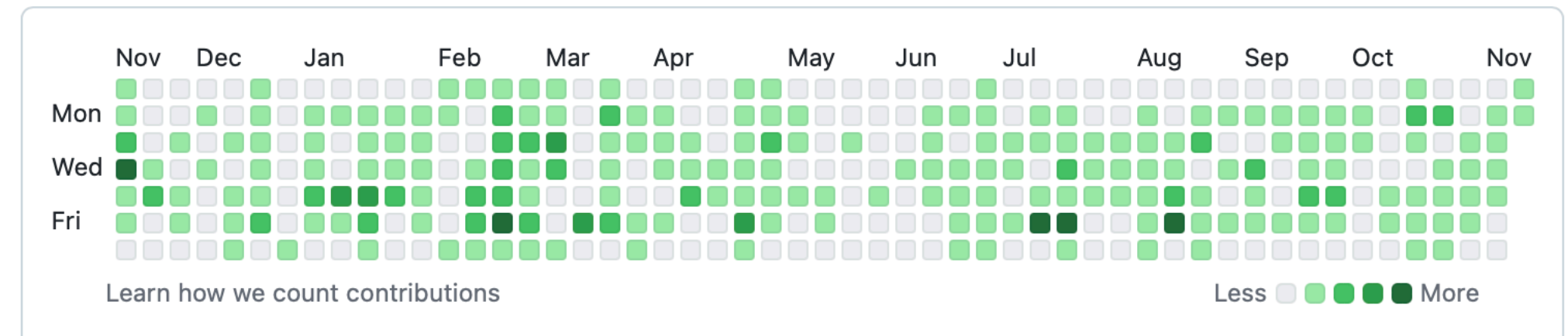
Java 531 67

Single sign-on to see contributions within the pivotal organization.

2023

1,559 contributions in the last year

Contribution settings



- 2022
- 2021
- 2020
- 2019
- 2018
- 2017
- 2016
- 2015

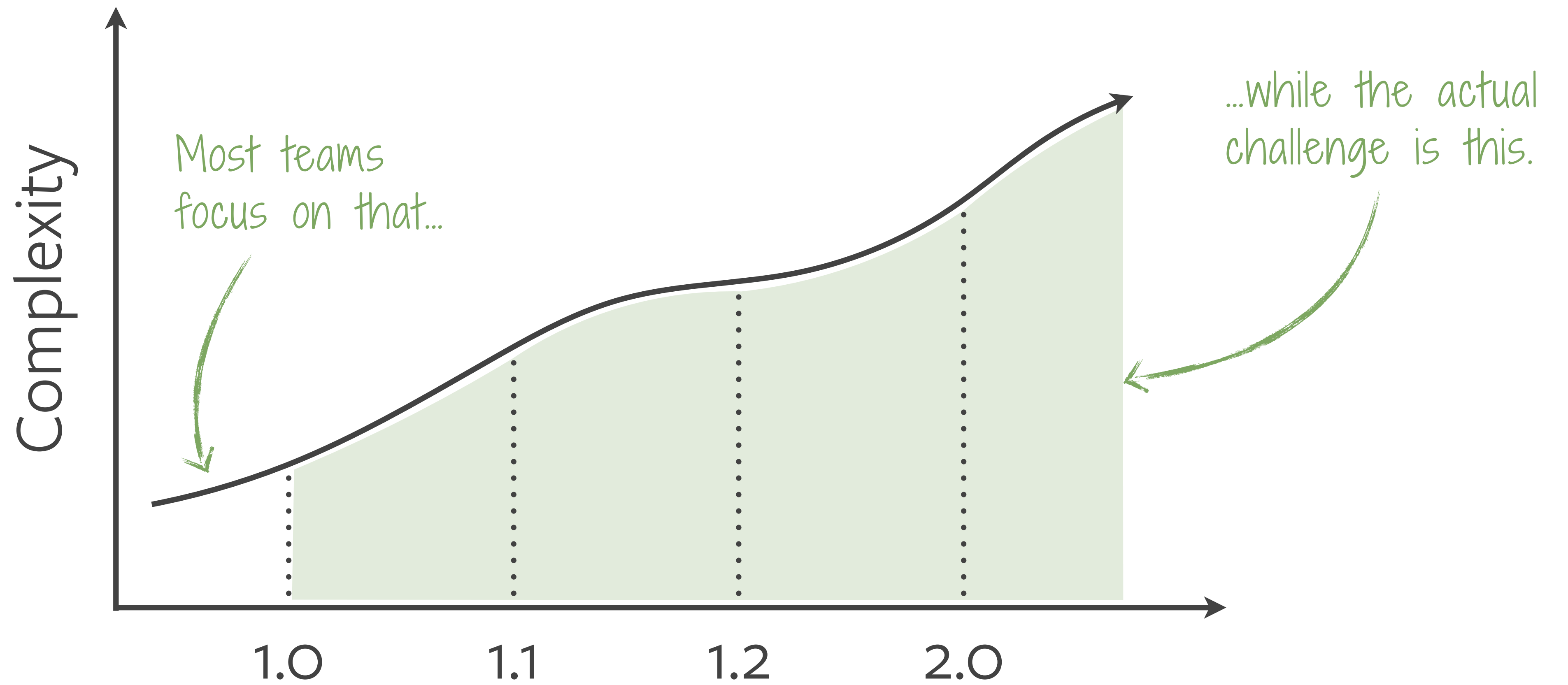
- @spring-projects
- @st-tu-dresden
- @xmolecules
- More

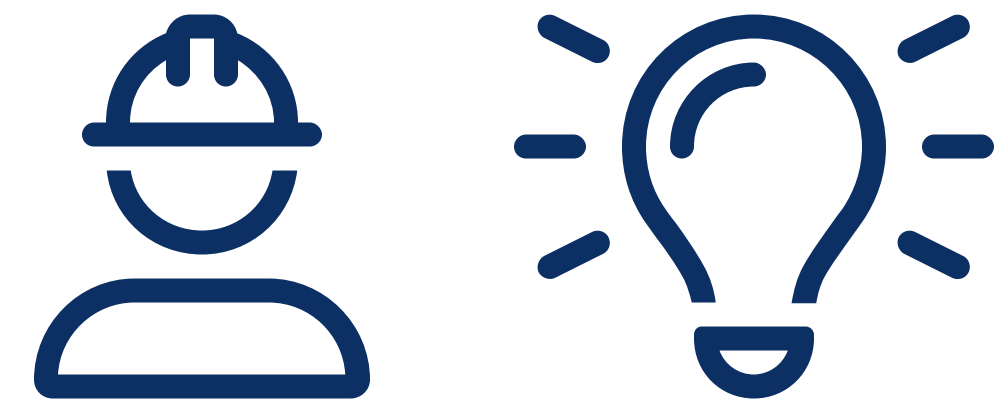
Activity overview

1% Code review

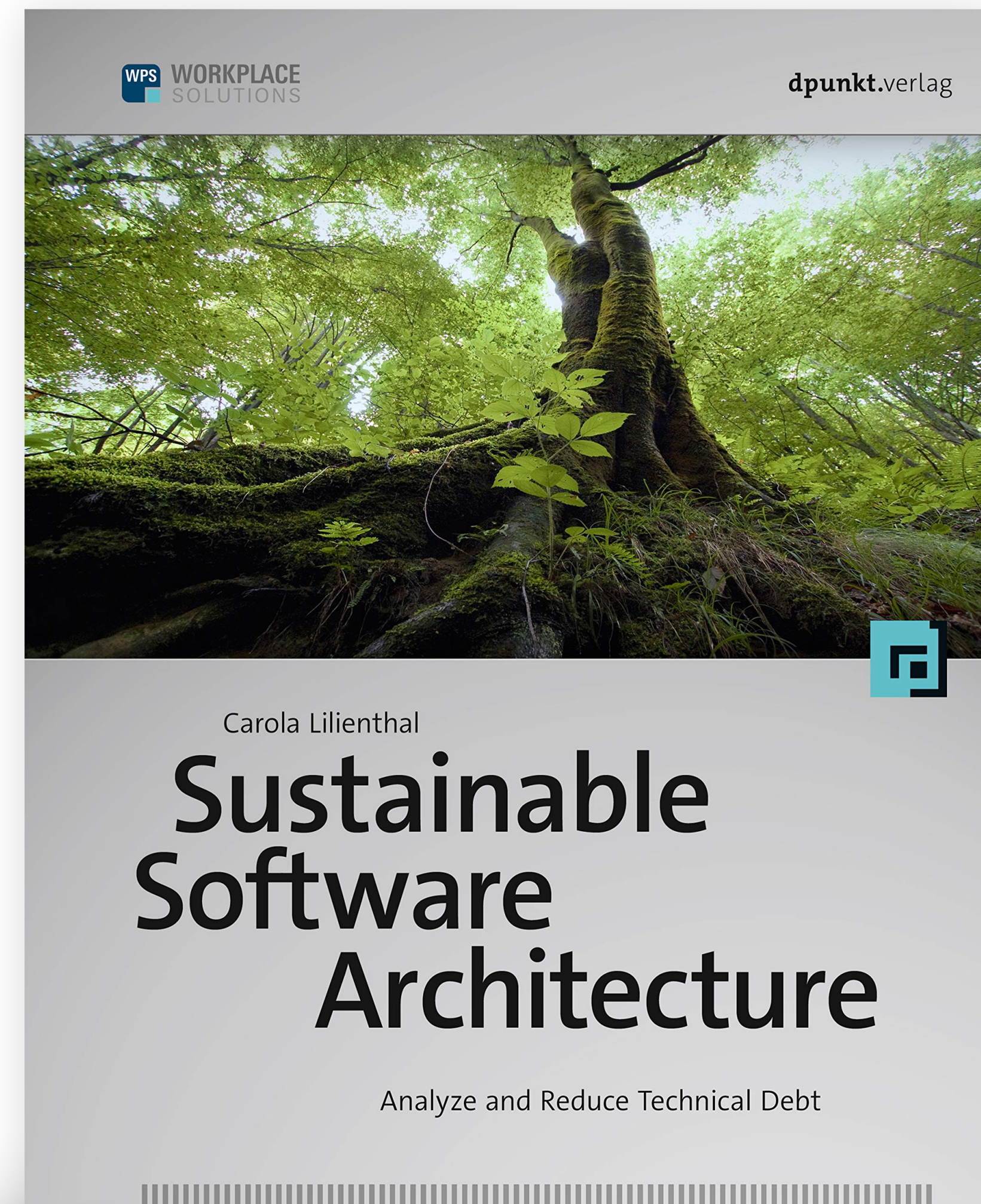
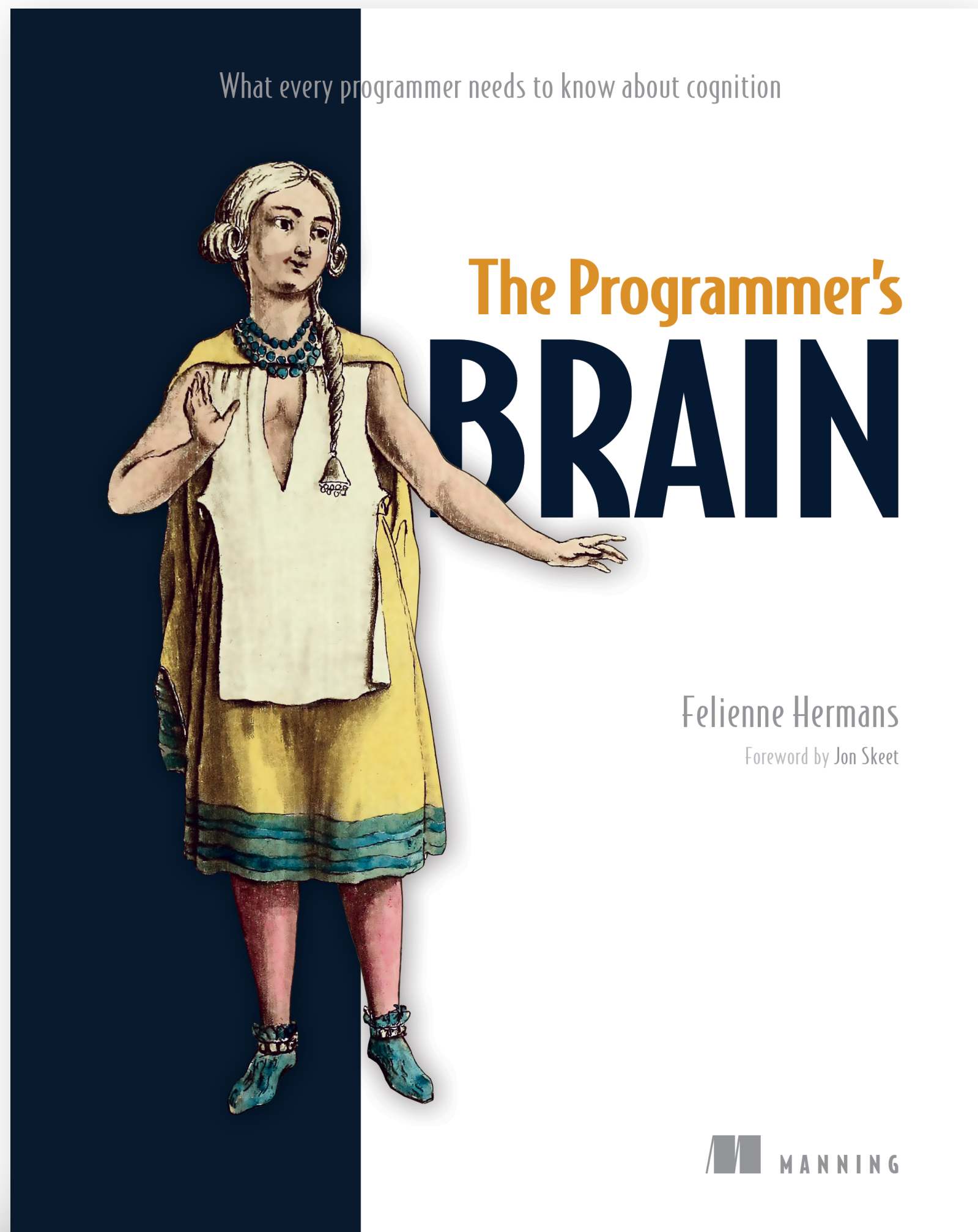
Contributed to

***We want to build
evolvable systems.***





Understandability

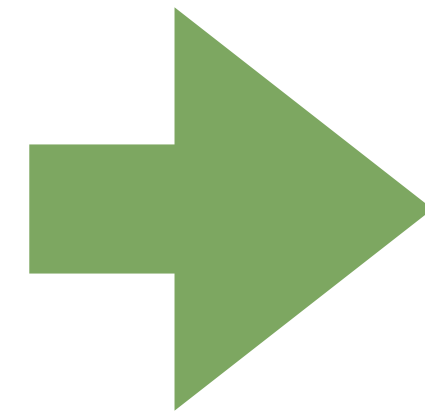




Chunking

Hierarchization

Pattern languages



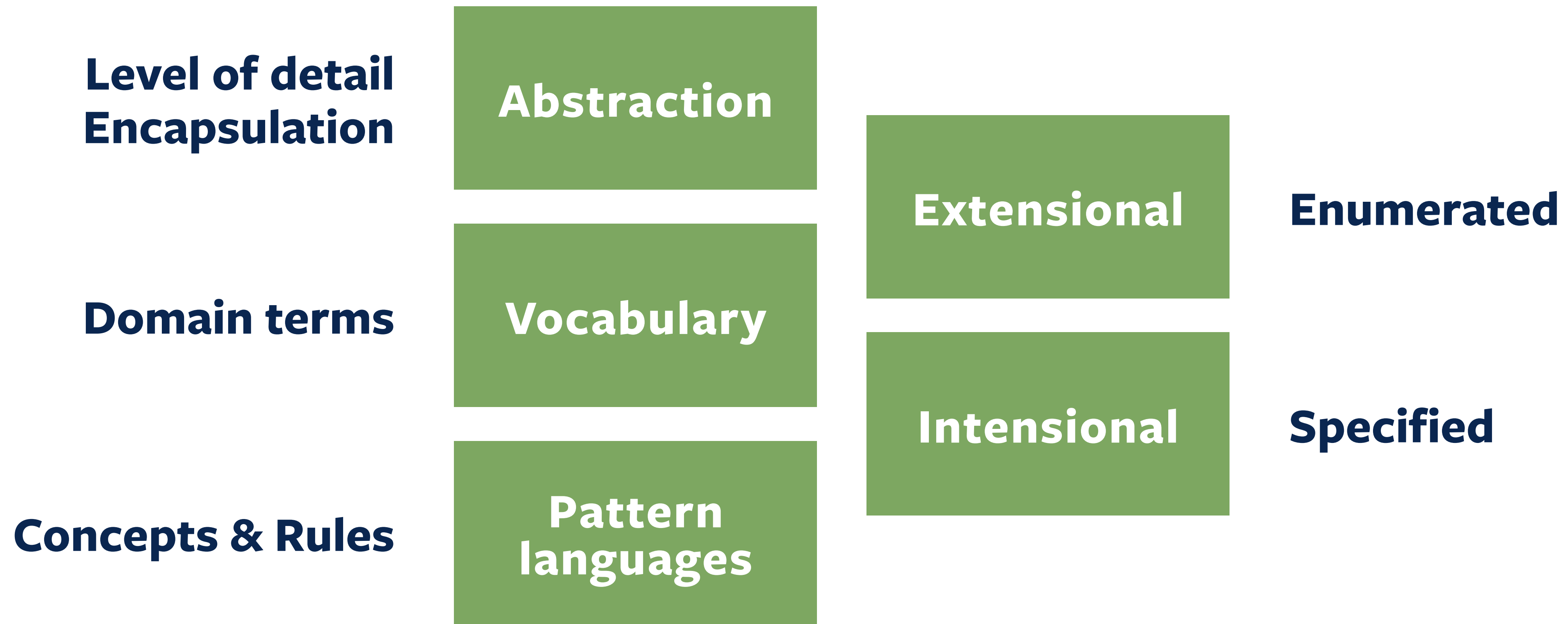
JUST ENOUGH SOFTWARE ARCHITECTURE

A RISK-DRIVEN APPROACH

GEORGE FAIRBANKS

FOREWORD BY DAVID GARLAN





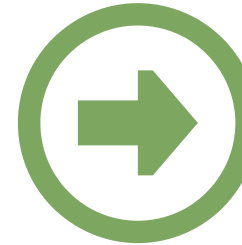
***Architecturally-
Evident Code?***



Extensional

Components / Modules

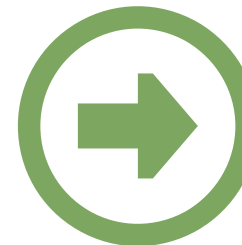
Invoicing,
Shipment



Deployables / Build modules / Packages

Domain language

EmailAddress,
ZipCode



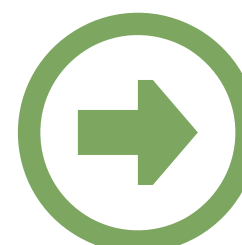
Classes, methods, fields

Intensional

Concepts & Rules

ValueObject,
Entity,
Aggregate

Layers,
Rings



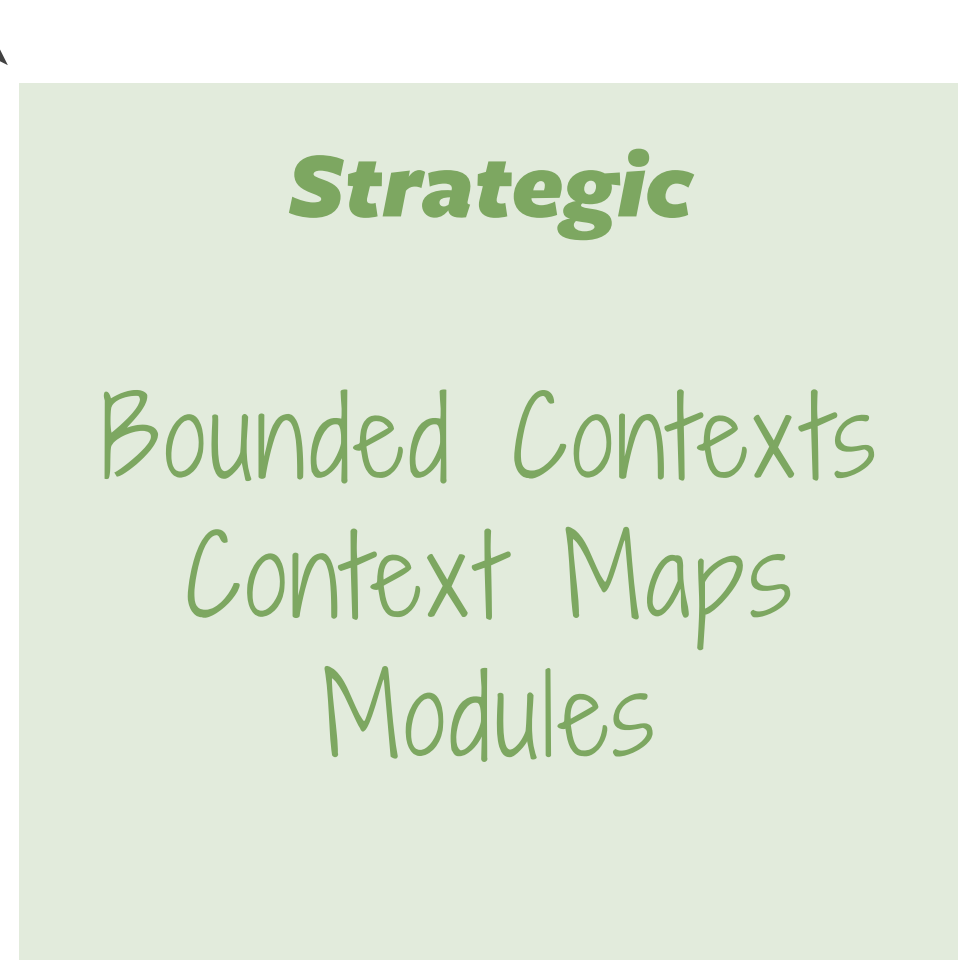
Naming conventions

What else? 🤔

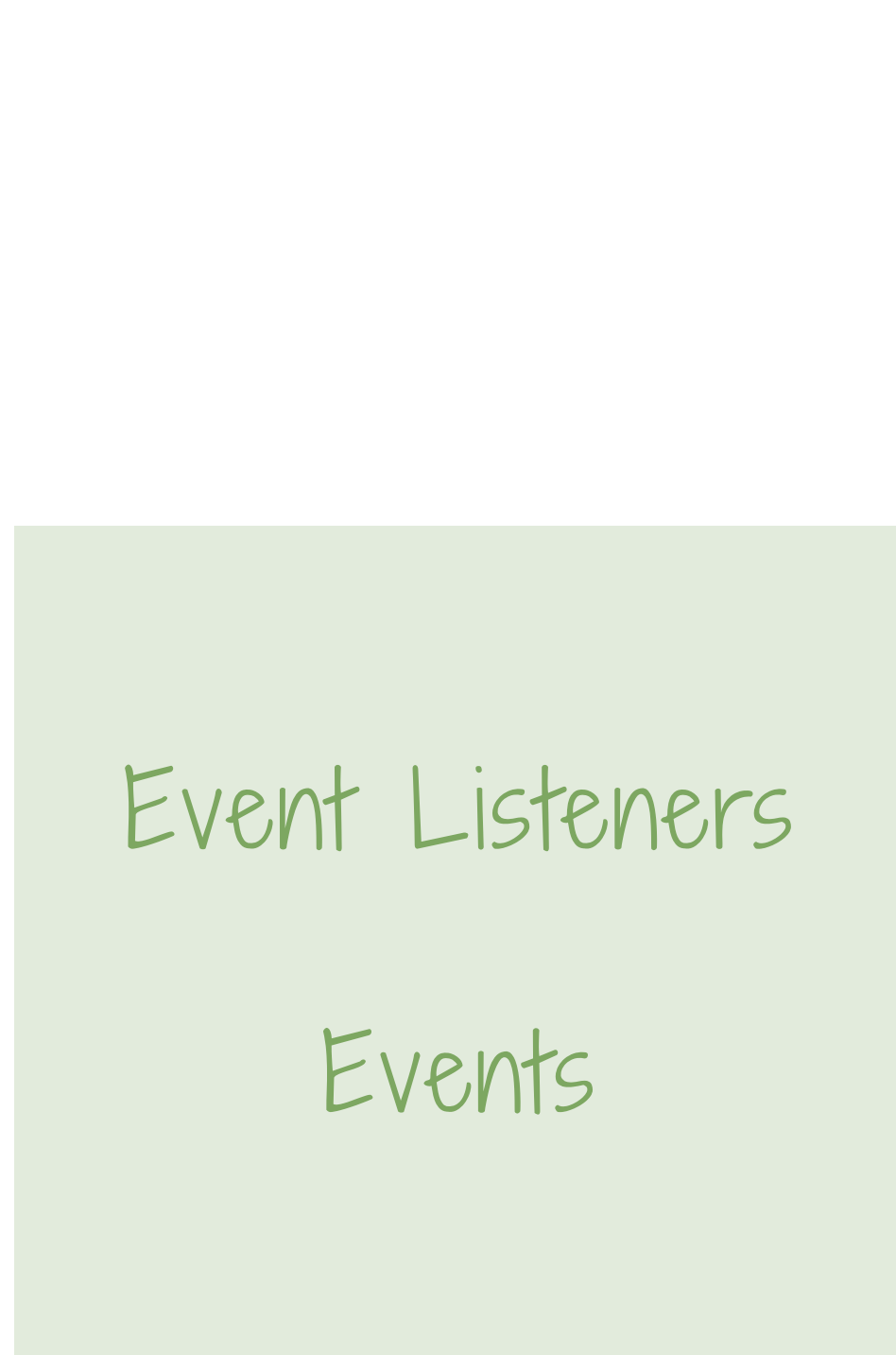
Architecture



Design



DDD



Events



Architecture

Architecture



Strategic

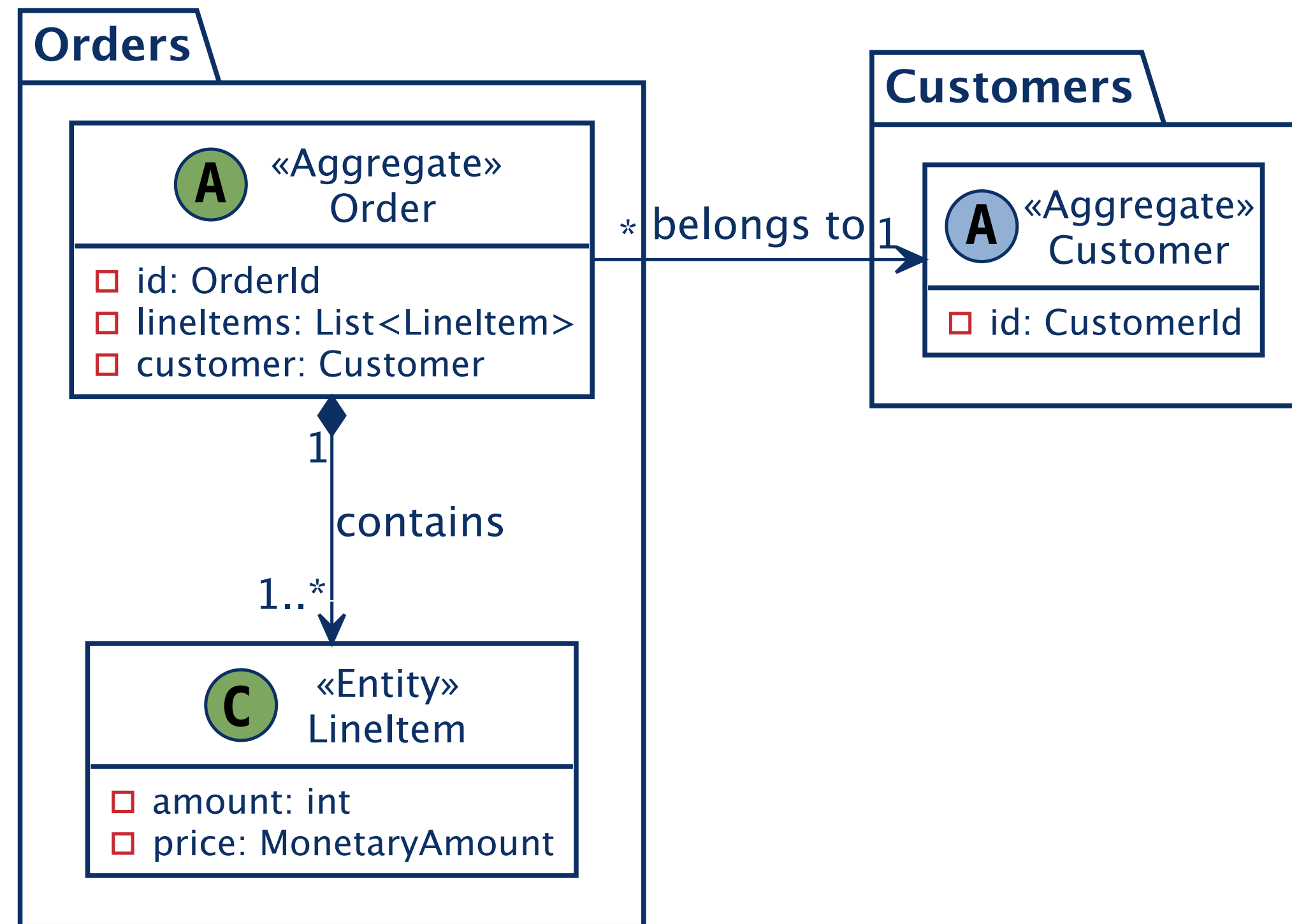
Bounded Contexts
Context Maps
Modules

Tactical

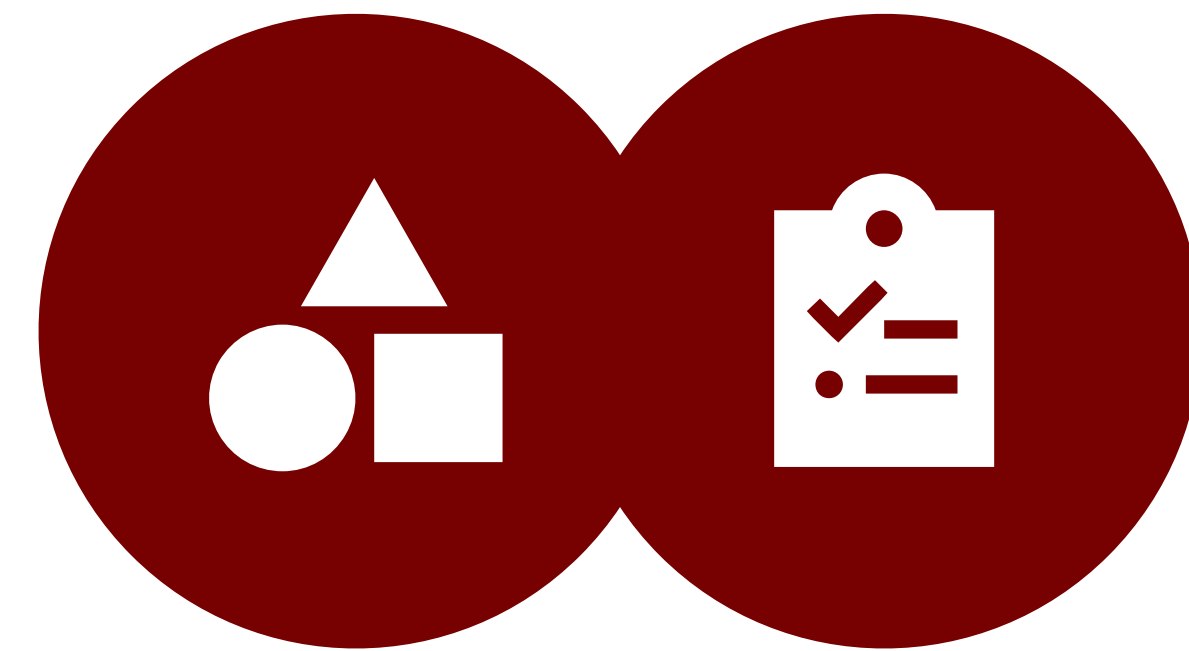
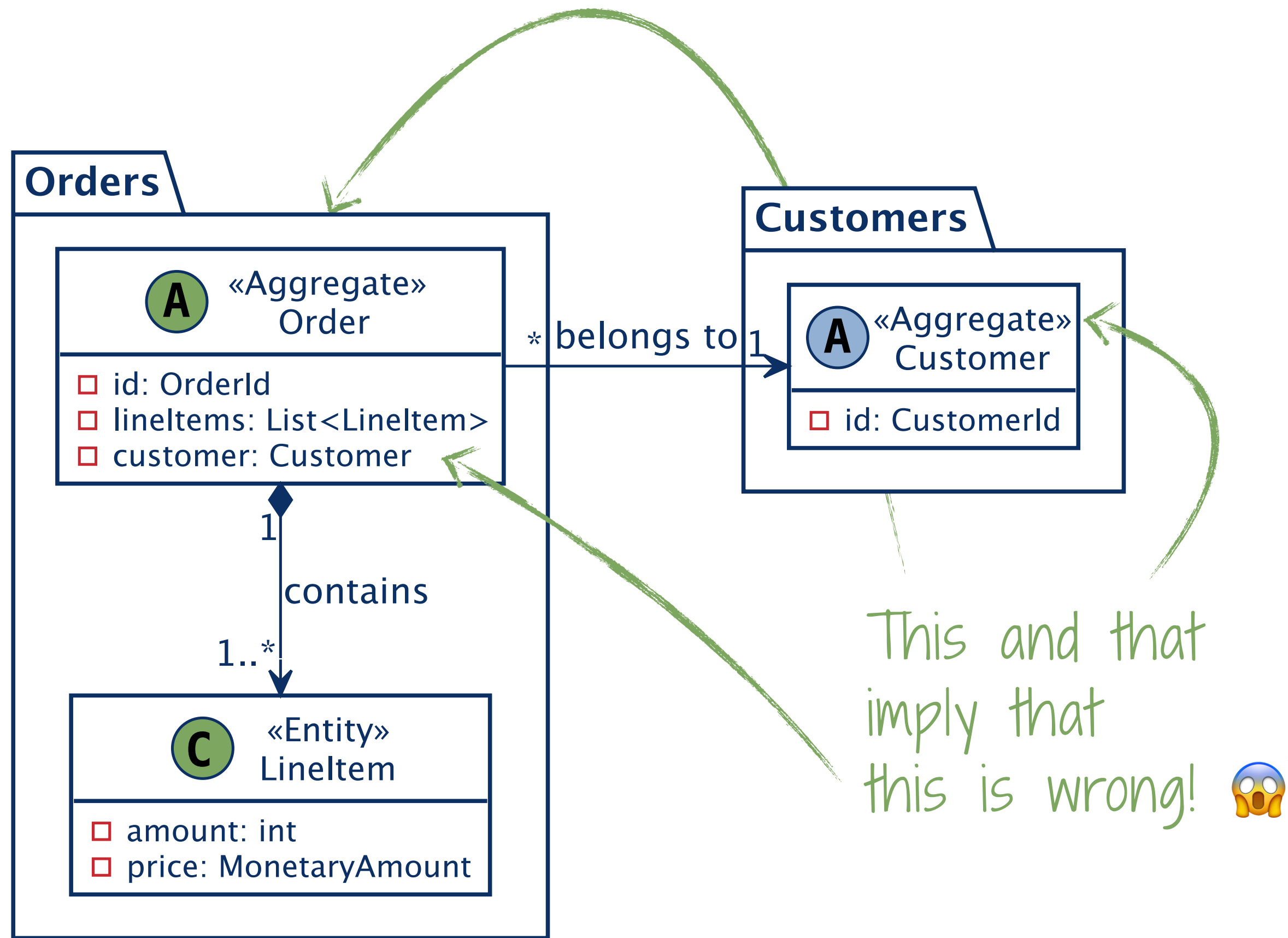
Repositories
Aggregates
Entities
Value Objects

Design

DDD



A simple Aggregate arrangement



A simple Aggregate arrangement

The logo for ArchUnit features a stylized blue semi-circle on the left, composed of three concentric arcs. To its right, the word "ArchUnit" is written in a blue, sans-serif font. "Arch" is in a darker blue, while "Unit" is in a lighter blue.

ArchUnit

The logo for jQAssistant features the word "jQAssistant" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letter "j" is green. A green checkmark is positioned over the "Q" and "A" characters.

jQAssistant

Your Software. Your Structures. Your Rules.

Establishing an Aggregate... in jQAssistant

```
MATCH
  (repo:Java:Type)
  -[:IMPLEMENTS_GENERIC]→ (superType)
  -[:OF_RAW_TYPE]→ (:Java:Type { fqn: "o.s.d.r.Repository"}),
  (superType)
  -[:HAS_ACTUAL_TYPE_ARGUMENT { index: 0 }]→ ()
  -[:OF_RAW_TYPE]→ (aggregateType)
SET
  aggregateType:Aggregate
RETURN
  repo, aggregateType
```

Establishes the concept

```
MATCH
  (aggregate:Aggregate)
  -[:DECLARES]→ (f:Field)
  -[:OF_TYPE]→ (fieldType:Aggregate)
WHERE
  aggregate ◇ fieldType
RETURN
  aggregate, fieldType
```

Establishes the rule

Reference to
tech stack 😞



Establishing an Aggregate... in ArchUnit

```
@AnalyzeClasses(packagesOf = Application.class)
public class ArchitectureTest {
```

```
    @ArchTest
```

```
    void verifyAggregates(JavaClasses types) {
```

```
        var aggregates = new AggregatesExtractor();
```

```
        var aggregateTypes = aggregates.doTransform(types);
```

```
        all(aggregates)
```

```
            .should(notReferToOtherAggregates(aggregateTypes))
```

```
            .check(types);
```

```
    }
```

```
}
```

Establishes
the concept

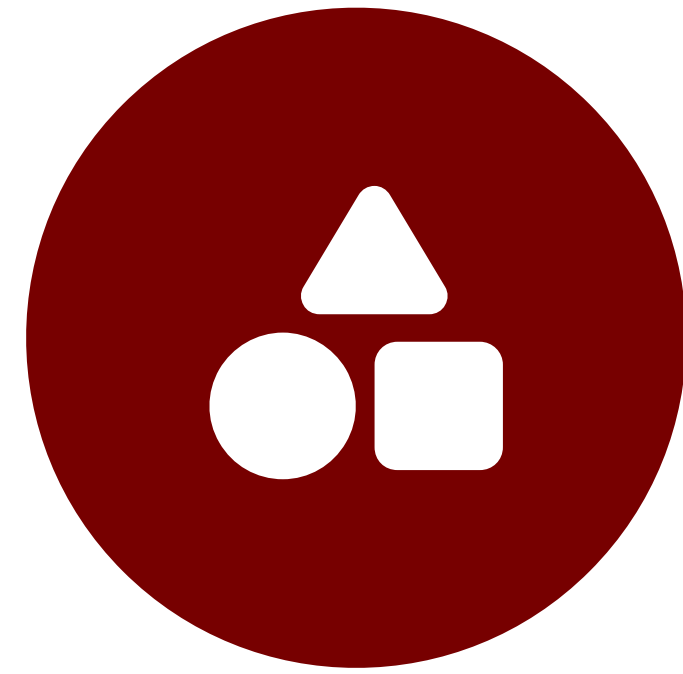


Establishes
the rule





User Code



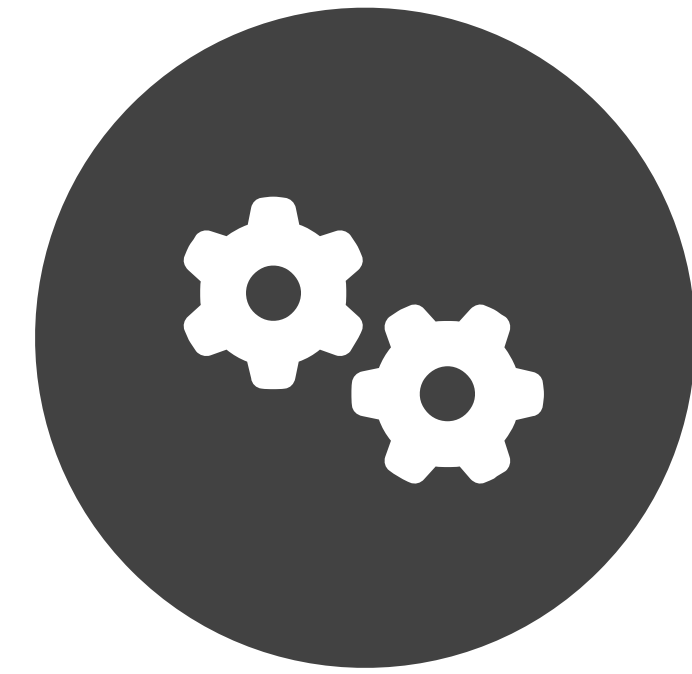
Concepts



Rules



Tools

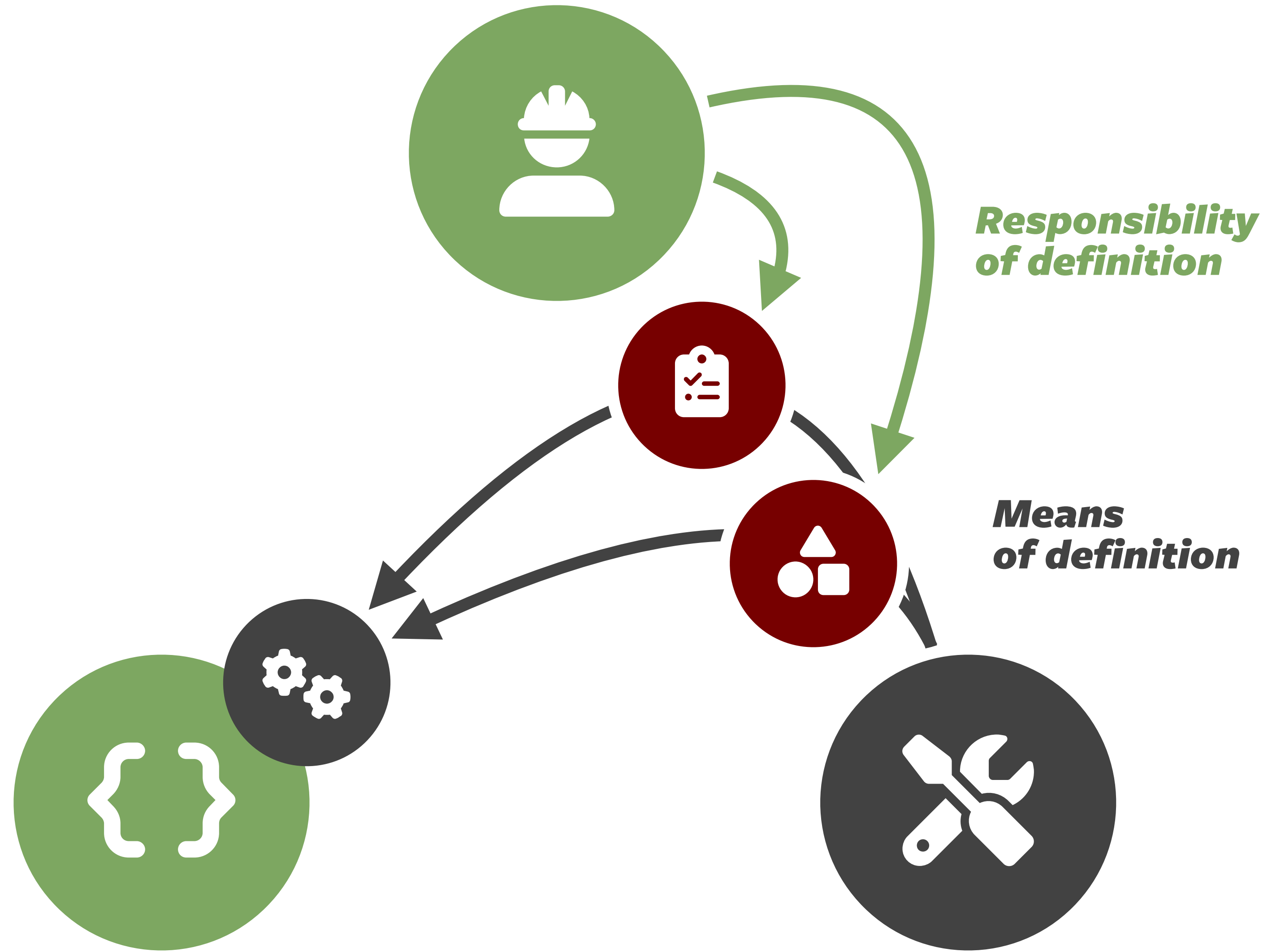


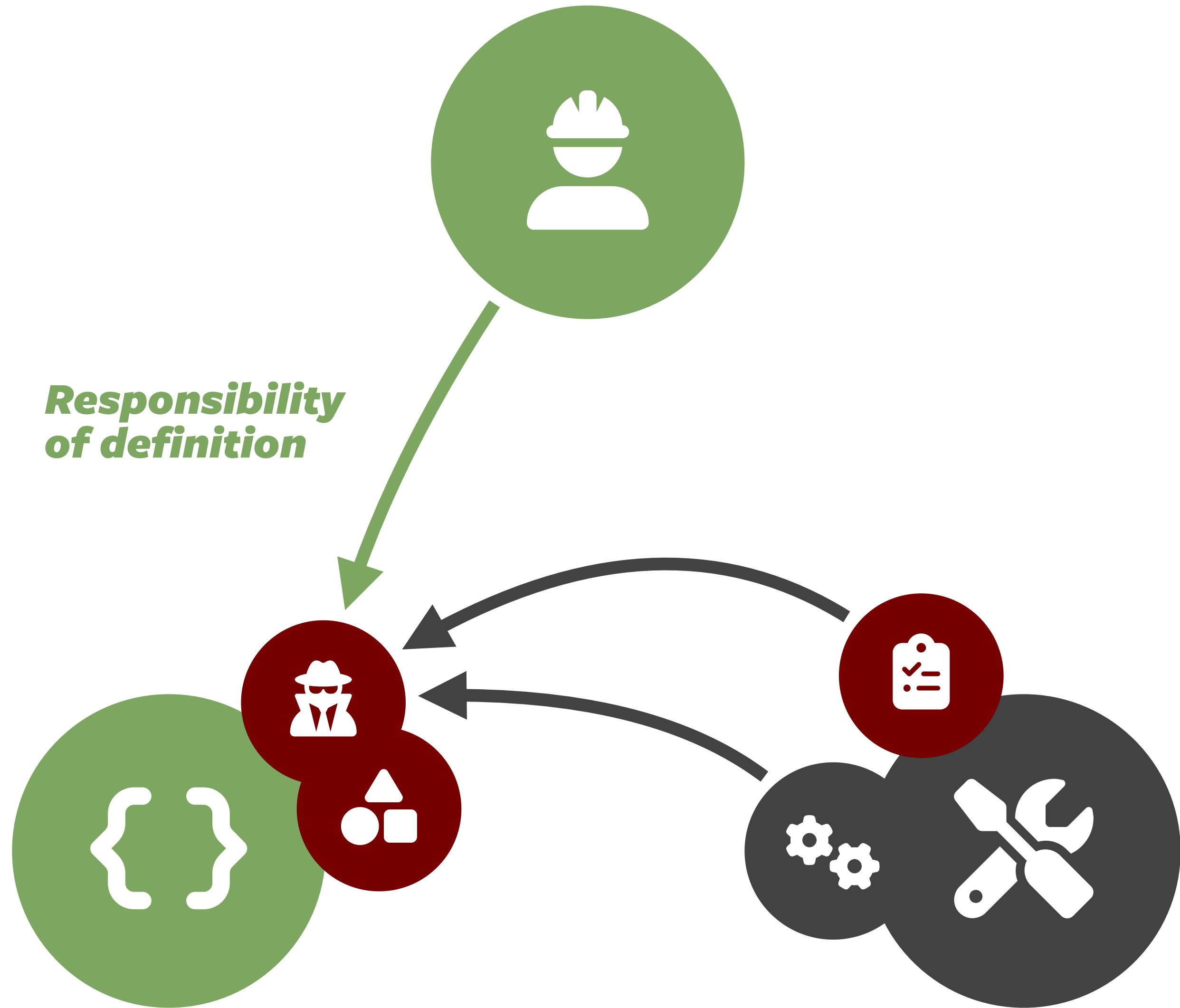
Frameworks

Code

Architecture

Technology





Responsibility of definition



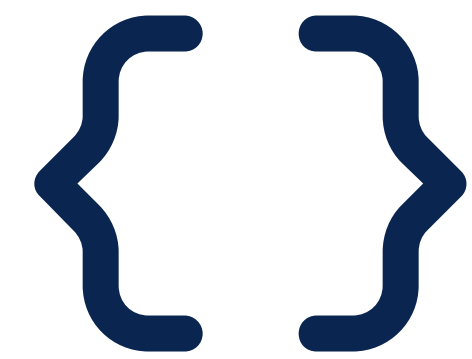
xMolecules



php







Explicit concepts

```
@Entity
@NoArgsConstructor(force = true)
@EqualsAndHashCode(of = "id")
@Table(name = "SAMPLE_ORDER")
@Getter
public class Order {

    private final @EmbeddedId OrderId id;

    @OneToMany(cascade = CascadeType.ALL)
    private List<LineItem> lineItems;
    private CustomerId customerId;

    public Order(CustomerId customerId) {
        this.id = OrderId.of(UUID.randomUUID());
        this.customerId = customerId;
    }

    @Value
    @RequiredArgsConstructor(staticName = "of")
    @NoArgsConstructor(force = true)
    public static class OrderId implements Serializable {
        private static final long serialVersionUID = ...;
        private final UUID orderId;
    }
}
```

```
@Entity
@NoArgsConstructor(force = true)
@EqualsAndHashCode(of = "id")
@Table(name = "SAMPLE_ORDER")
@Getter
public class Order implements o.j.d.t.AggregateRoot<Order, OrderId> {

    private final @EmbeddedId OrderId id;

    @OneToMany(cascade = CascadeType.ALL)
    private List<LineItem> lineItems;
    private CustomerId customerId;

    public Order(CustomerId customerId) {
        this.id = OrderId.of(UUID.randomUUID());
        this.customerId = customerId;
    }

    @Value
    @RequiredArgsConstructor(staticName = "of")
    @NoArgsConstructor(force = true)
    public static class OrderId implements o.j.d.t.Identifier {
        private static final long serialVersionUID = ...;
        private final UUID orderId;
    }
}
```



Verification

Verifying a jMolecules Aggregate ... in jqAssistant

```
<plugin>
  <groupId>com.buschmais.jqassistant</groupId>
  <artifactId>jqassistant-maven-plugin</artifactId>
  <version>...</version>
  <executions>
    <execution>
      <id>default-cli</id>
      <goals>
        <goal>scan</goal>
        <goal>analyze</goal>
      </goals>
      <configuration>...</configuration>
    </execution>
  </executions>
  <dependencies>
    <dependency>
      <groupId>org.jqassistant.contrib.plugin</groupId>
      <artifactId>jqassistant-jmolecules-plugin</artifactId>
      <version>...</version>
    </dependency>
  </dependencies>
</plugin>
```

Simply execute the predefined rules



Verifying a jMolecules Aggregate ... in ArchUnit

```
@AnalyzeClasses(packagesOf = Application.class)
class ArchitectureTests {

    @ArchTest
    ArchRule ddd = JMoleculesDddRules.all();
}
```



Simply execute the predefined rules

```
*Order.java X
arch-evident-spring > src/main/java > example.order > Order >
45 @Getter
46 public class Order implements AggregateRoot<Order, OrderIdentifier> {
47
48     private final OrderIdentifier id;
49     private final Customer customer;
50     private Status status;
51
52     private final List<LineItem> lineItems = new ArrayList<>();
53
54     public Order(CustomerIdentifier customerId) {
55
56         this.id = new OrderIdentifier(UUID.randomUUID());
57         this.status = Status.OPEN;
58         this.customer = null;
59     }
```

Problems X Javadoc Error Log Progress Search PlantUML Call Hierarchy Coverage JUnit Boot Dashboard Terminal History Console

3 errors, 0 warnings, 0 others

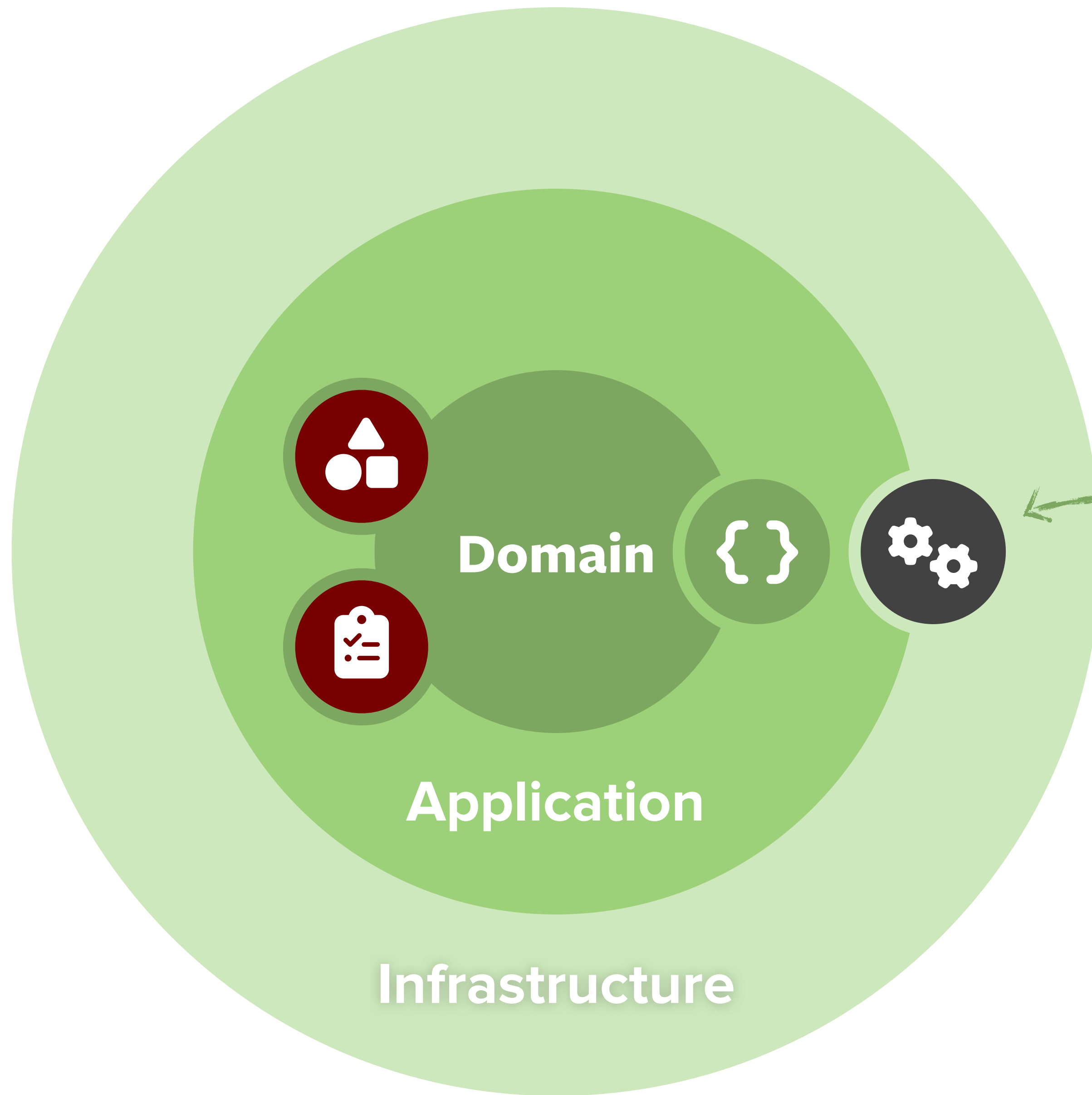
Description	Resource	Path
Invalid aggregate root reference! Use identifier reference or Association instead!	Order.java	/arch-evident-spring/src/main/java/exam



**Invalid aggregate root reference!
Use identifier or Association instead!**



***Eliminate
boilerplate***



- Spring Framework
- JPA
- Jackson

Model characteristics
expressed implicitly
or through
technical means

```
@Entity
@NoArgsConstructor(force = true)
@EqualsAndHashCode(of = "id")
@Table(name = "SAMPLE_ORDER")
@Getter
public class Order {

    private final @EmbeddedId OrderId id;

    @OneToMany(cascade = CascadeType.ALL)
    private List<LineItem> lineItems;
    private CustomerId customerId;

    public Order(CustomerId customerId) {
        this.id = OrderId.of(UUID.randomUUID());
        this.customerId = customerId;
    }

    @Value
    @RequiredArgsConstructor(staticName = "of")
    @NoArgsConstructor(force = true)
    public static class OrderId implements Serializable {
        private static final long serialVersionUID = ...;
        private final UUID orderId;
    }
}
```

JPA-induced
boilerplate

```

@Entity
@NoArgsConstructor(force = true)
@EqualsAndHashCode(of = "id")
@Table(name = "SAMPLE_ORDER")
@Getter
public class Order implements AggregateRoot<Order, OrderId> {

    private final @EmbeddedId OrderId id;

    @OneToMany(cascade = CascadeType.ALL)
    private List<LineItem> lineItems;
    private Association<Customer, CustomerId> customer;

    public Order(CustomerId customerId) {
        this.id = OrderId.of(UUID.randomUUID());
        this.customer = Association.forId(customerId);
    }

    @Value
    @RequiredArgsConstructor(staticName = "of")
    @NoArgsConstructor(force = true)
    public static class OrderId implements Identifier {
        private static final long serialVersionUID = ...;
        private final UUID orderId;
    }
}

```

```
@Entity
@NoArgsConstructor(force = true)
@EqualsAndHashCode(of = "id")
@Table(name = "SAMPLE_ORDER")
@Getter
public class Order implements AggregateRoot<Order, OrderId> {

    private final @EmbeddedId OrderId id;

    @OneToMany(cascade = CascadeType.ALL)
    private List<LineItem> lineItems;
    private Association<Customer, CustomerId> customer;

    public Order(CustomerId customerId) {
        this.id = OrderId.of(UUID.randomUUID());
        this.customer = Association.forId(customerId);
    }

    @Value
    @RequiredArgsConstructor(staticName = "of")
    @NoArgsConstructor(force = true)
    public static class OrderId implements Identifier {
        private static final long serialVersionUID = ...;
        private final UUID orderId;
    }
}
```

Meanwhile in your IDE...

```
[INFO] ┆ example.order.Order
[INFO] ┆   JPA - Adding @j.p.Entity.
[INFO] ┆   JPA - Adding default constructor.
[INFO] ┆   JPA - Adding nullability verification using new callback methods.
[INFO] ┆   JPA - Defaulting id mapping to @j.p.EmbeddedId().
[INFO] ┆   JPA - Defaulting lineItems mapping to @j.p.JoinColumn(...).
[INFO] ┆   JPA - Defaulting lineItems mapping to @j.p.OneToOne(...).
[INFO] ┆   Spring Data JPA - Implementing o.s.d.d.Persistable<e.o.Order$OrderIdentifier>.
[INFO] ┆   Spring JPA - customer - Adding @j.p.Convert(converter=...).
```

```

@Entity
@NoArgsConstructor(force = true)
@EqualsAndHashCode(of = "id")
@Table(name = "SAMPLE_ORDER")
@Getter
public class Order {

    private final @EmbeddedId OrderId id;

    @OneToMany(cascade = CascadeType.ALL)
    private List<LineItem> lineItems;
    private CustomerId customerId;

    public Order(Customer customer) {
        this.id = OrderId.of(UUID.randomUUID());
        this.customerId = customer.getId();
    }

    @Value
    @RequiredArgsConstructor(staticName = "of")
    @NoArgsConstructor(force = true)
    public static class OrderId implements Serializable {
        private static final long serialVersionUID = ...;
        private final UUID orderId;
    }
}

```

```

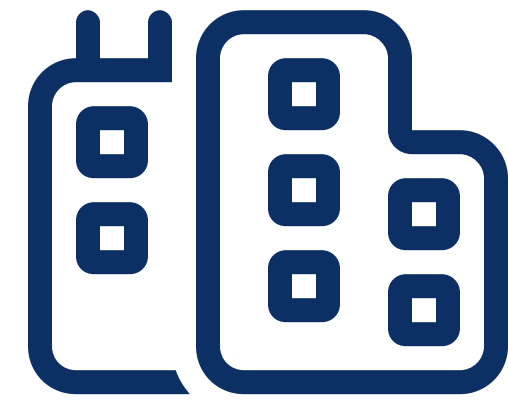
@Table(name = "SAMPLE_ORDER")
@Getter
public class Order implements AggregateRoot<Order, OrderId> {

    private final OrderId id;
    private List<LineItem> lineItems;
    private Association<Customer, CustomerId> customer;

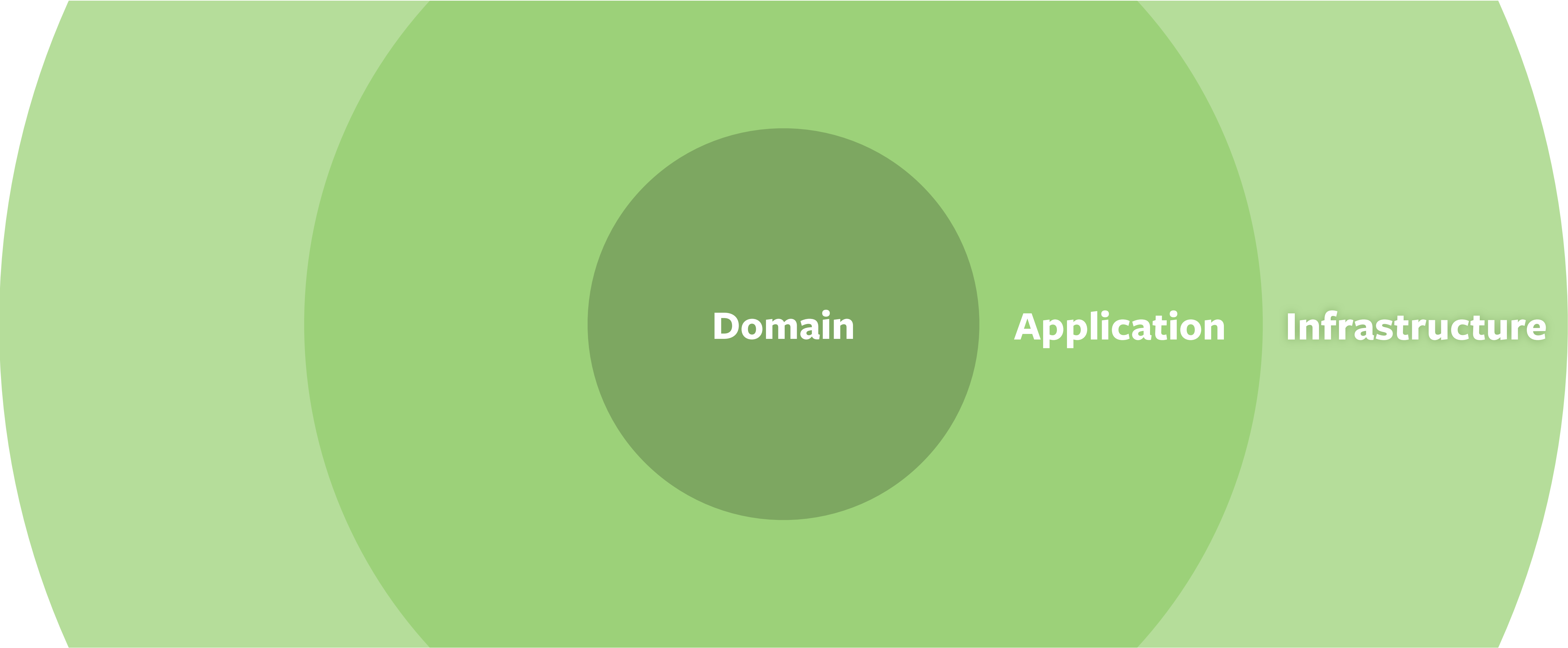
    public Order(CustomerId customerId) {
        this.id = OrderId.of(UUID.randomUUID());
        this.customer = Association.forId(customerId);
    }

    @Value(staticConstructor = "of")
    public static class OrderId implements Identifier {
        private final UUID orderId;
    }
}

```



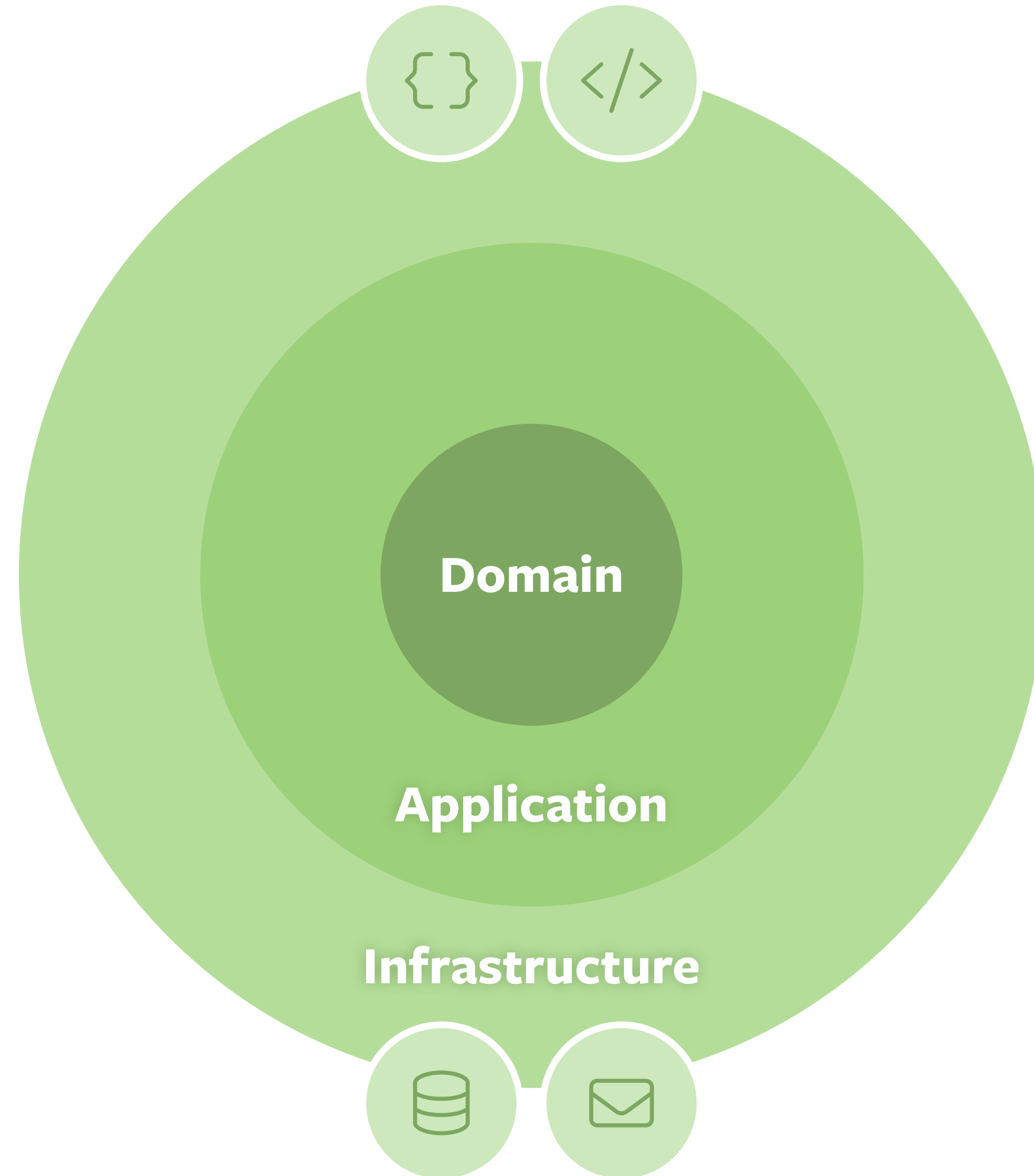
Separation of Concerns Architectures

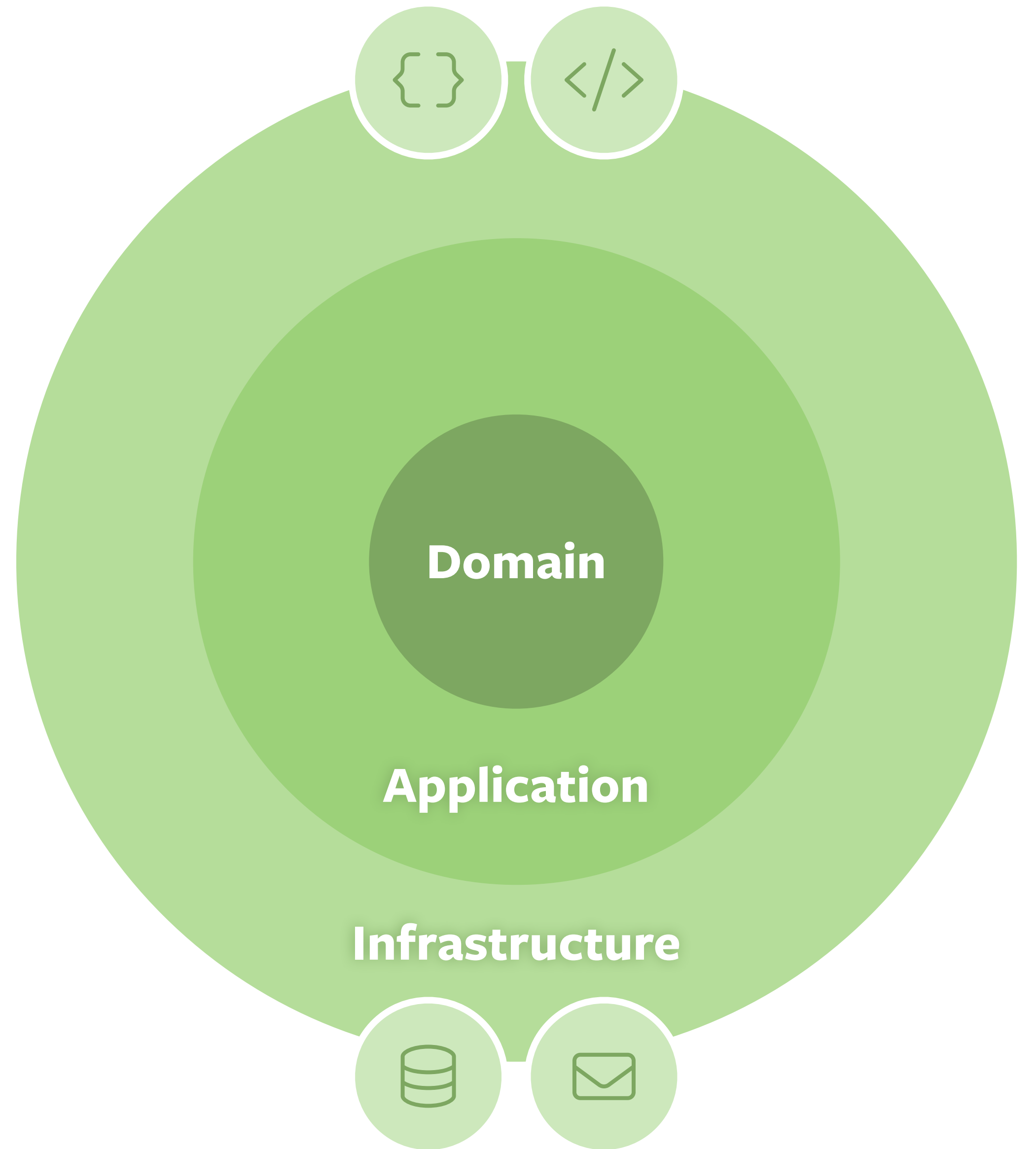
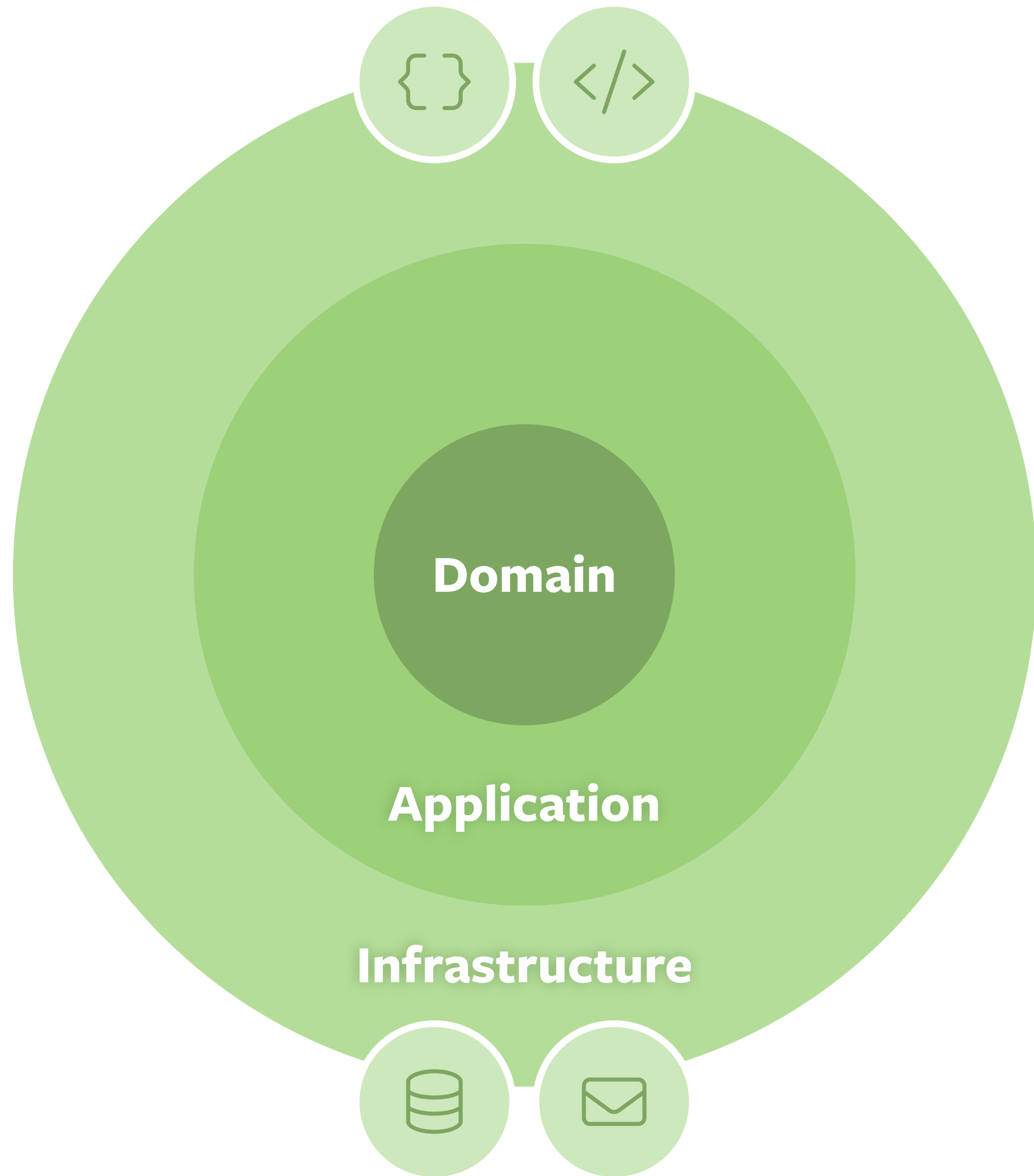


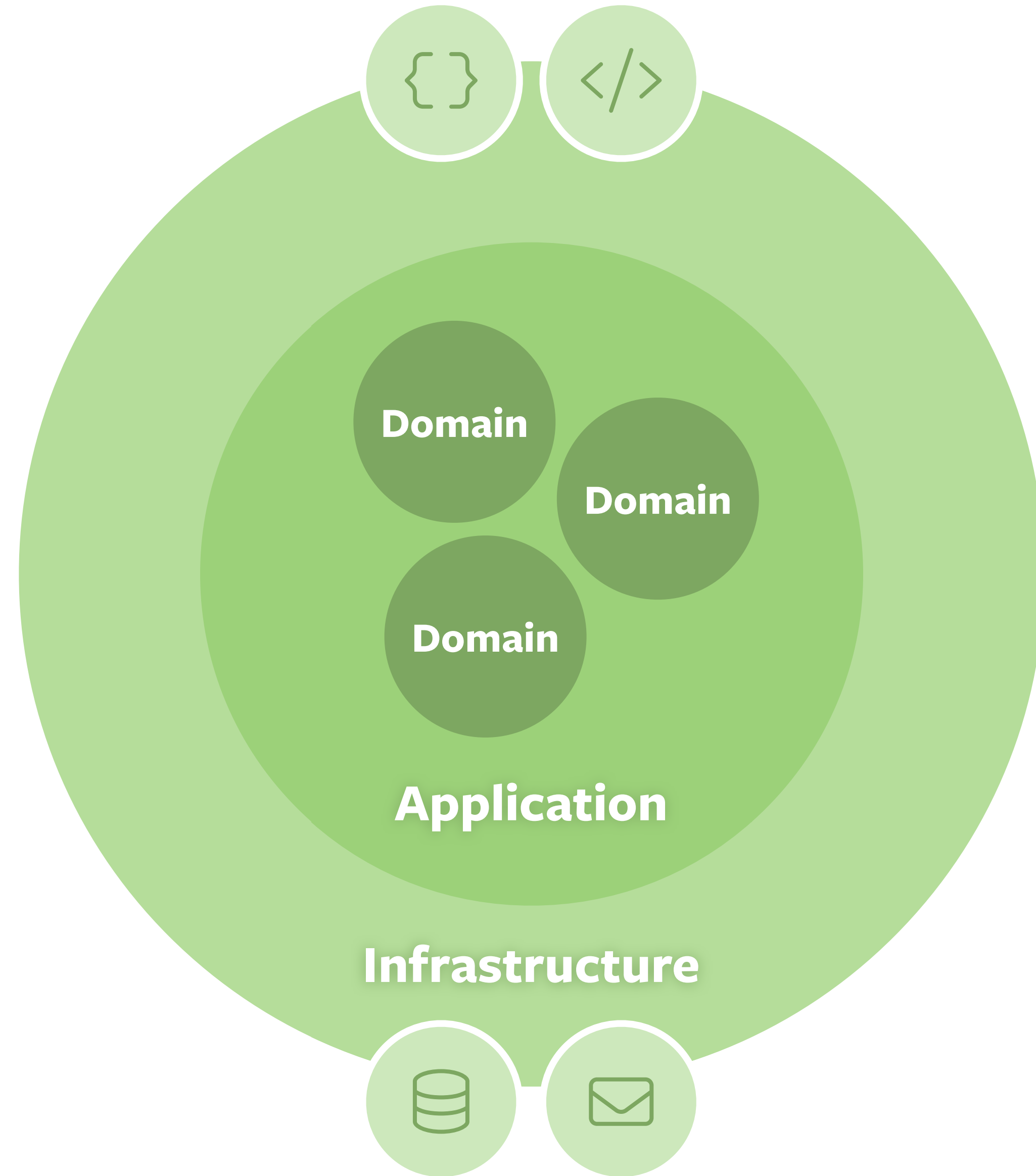
Domain

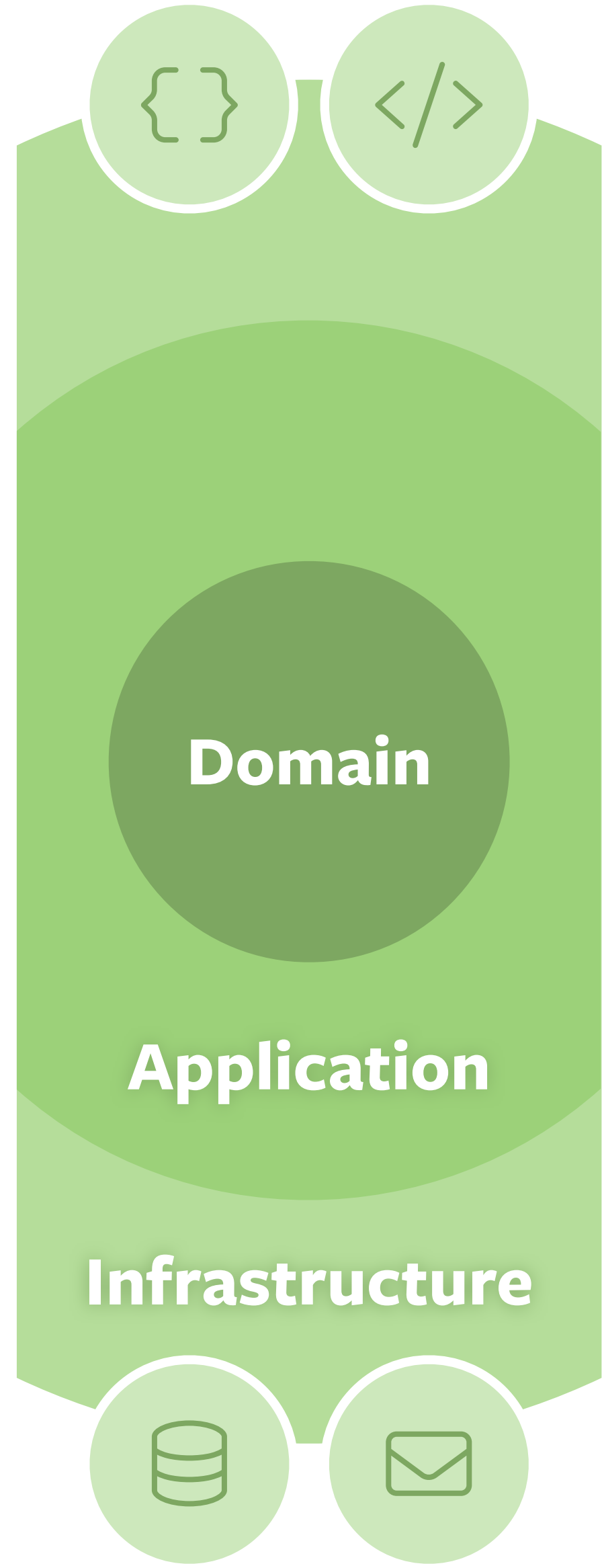
Application

Infrastructure





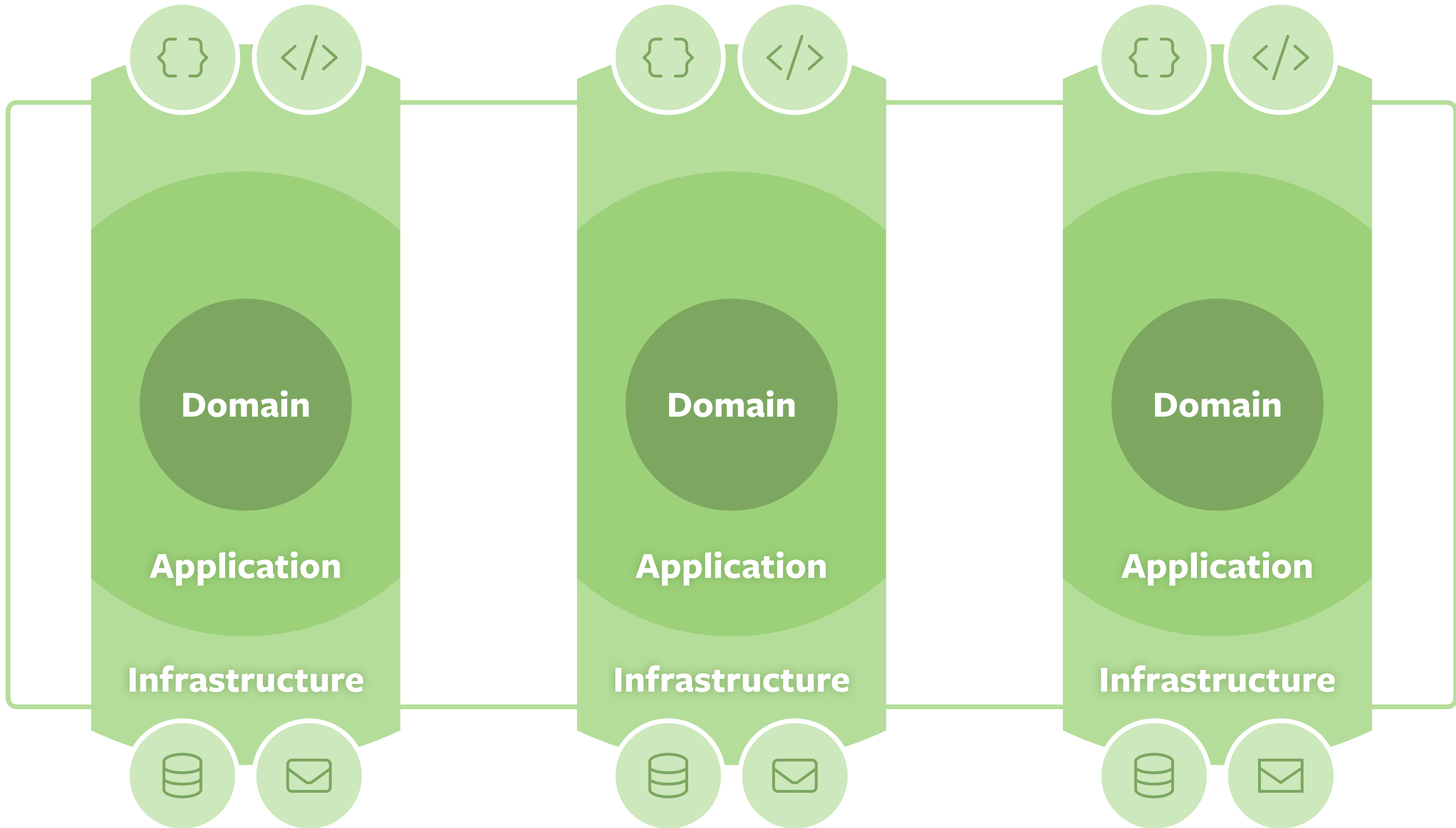


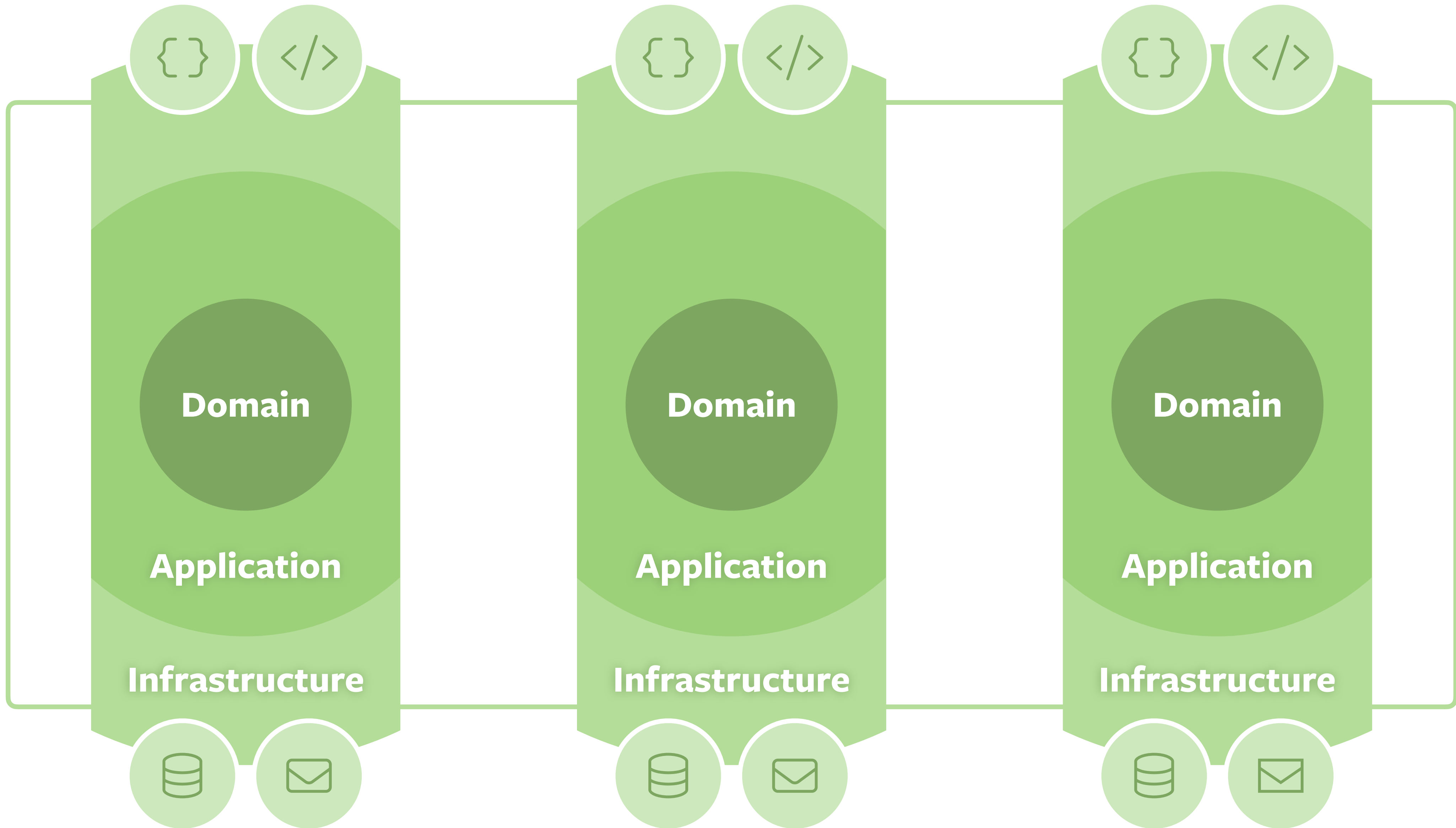


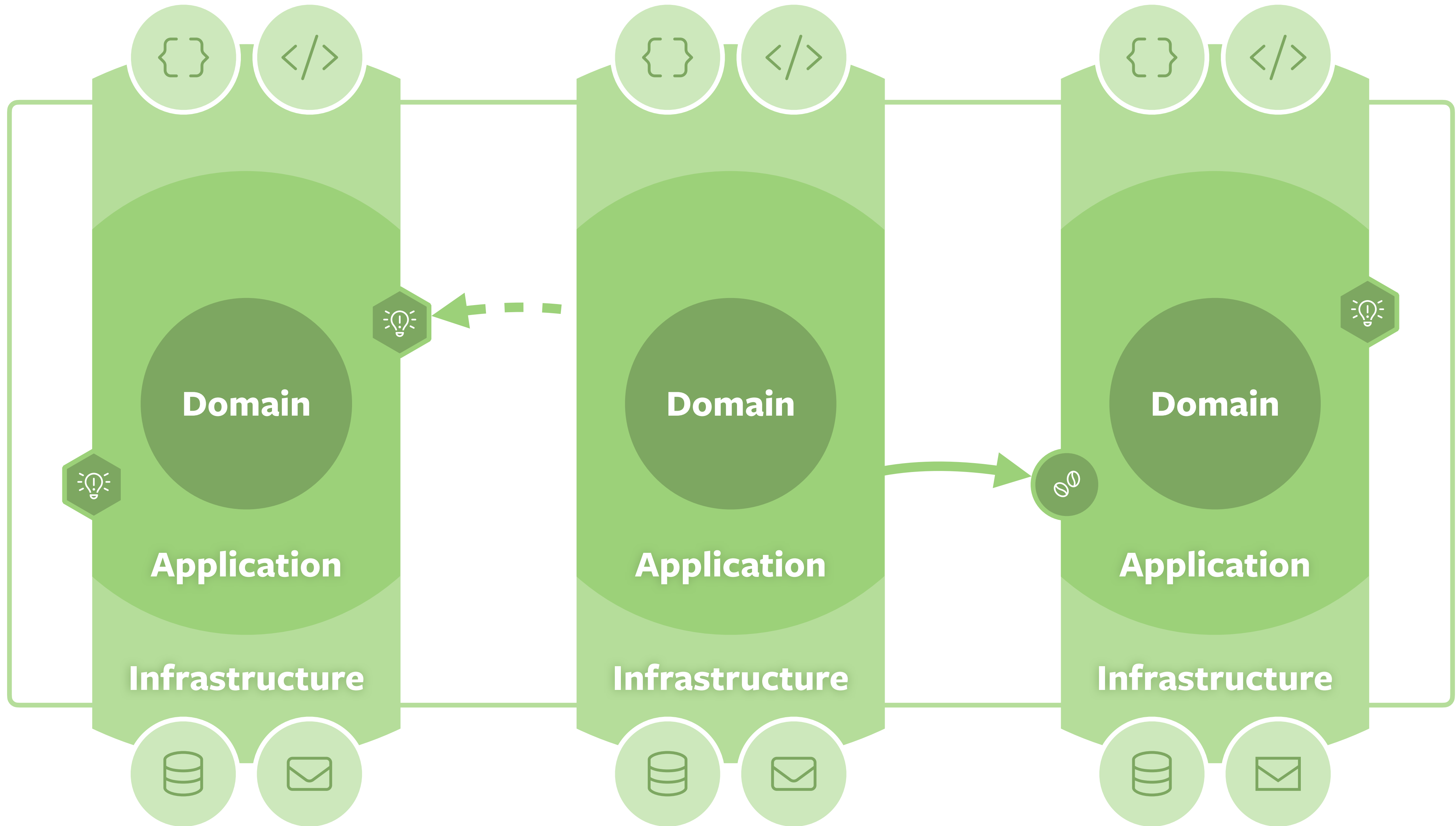
Domain

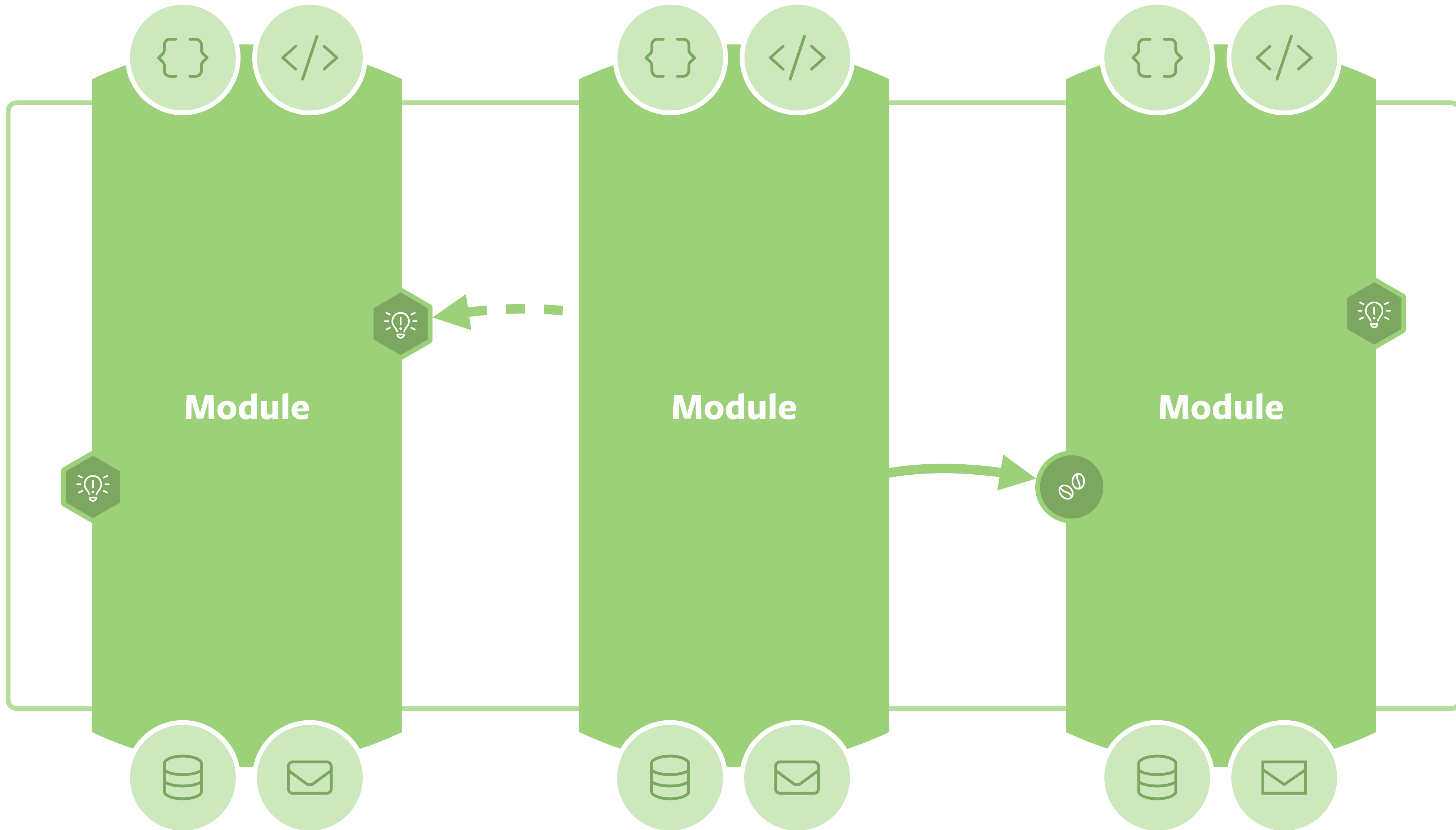
Application

Infrastructure











Spring Modulith

```
package com.acme.modulith
```

```
@SpringBootApplication
```

```
class MyApplication { ... }
```

Standard Spring Boot Application

Package Conventions

- 📦 **...modulith**
- 📦 **...modulith.moduleA**
- 📦 **...modulith.moduleA.internal**
- 📦 **...modulith.moduleB**
- 📦 **...modulith.moduleB.internal**

API packages

Access to components residing in internal packages forbidden and checked during tests.

```
package com.acme.modulith
```

```
@SpringBootApplication
```

```
class MyApplication { ... }
```

Standard Spring Boot Application

```
var modules =
```

```
    ApplicationModules.of(MyApplication.class);
```

```
modules.verify(...);
```

Verifies rules for MyApplication

	Module A	Module B	Module C
Web @WebMvcTest			
Business logic			
Data access @Data..Test			

@ApplicationModuleTest



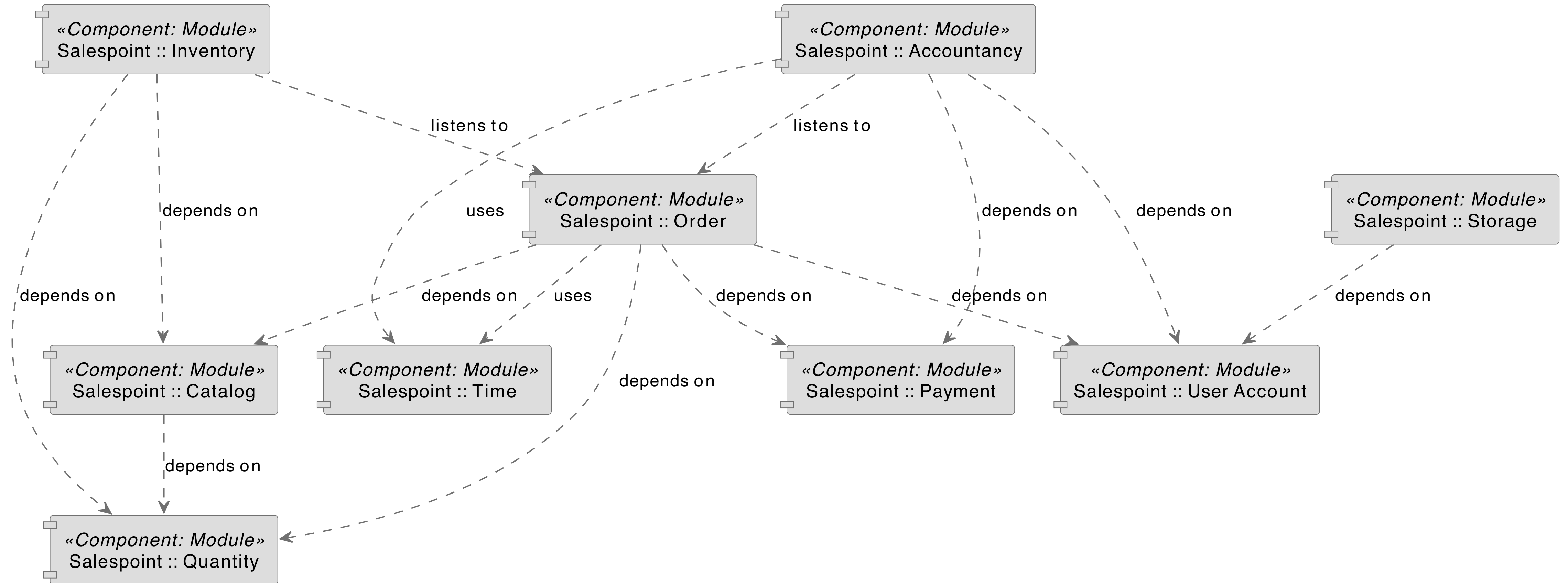
Provided Interface

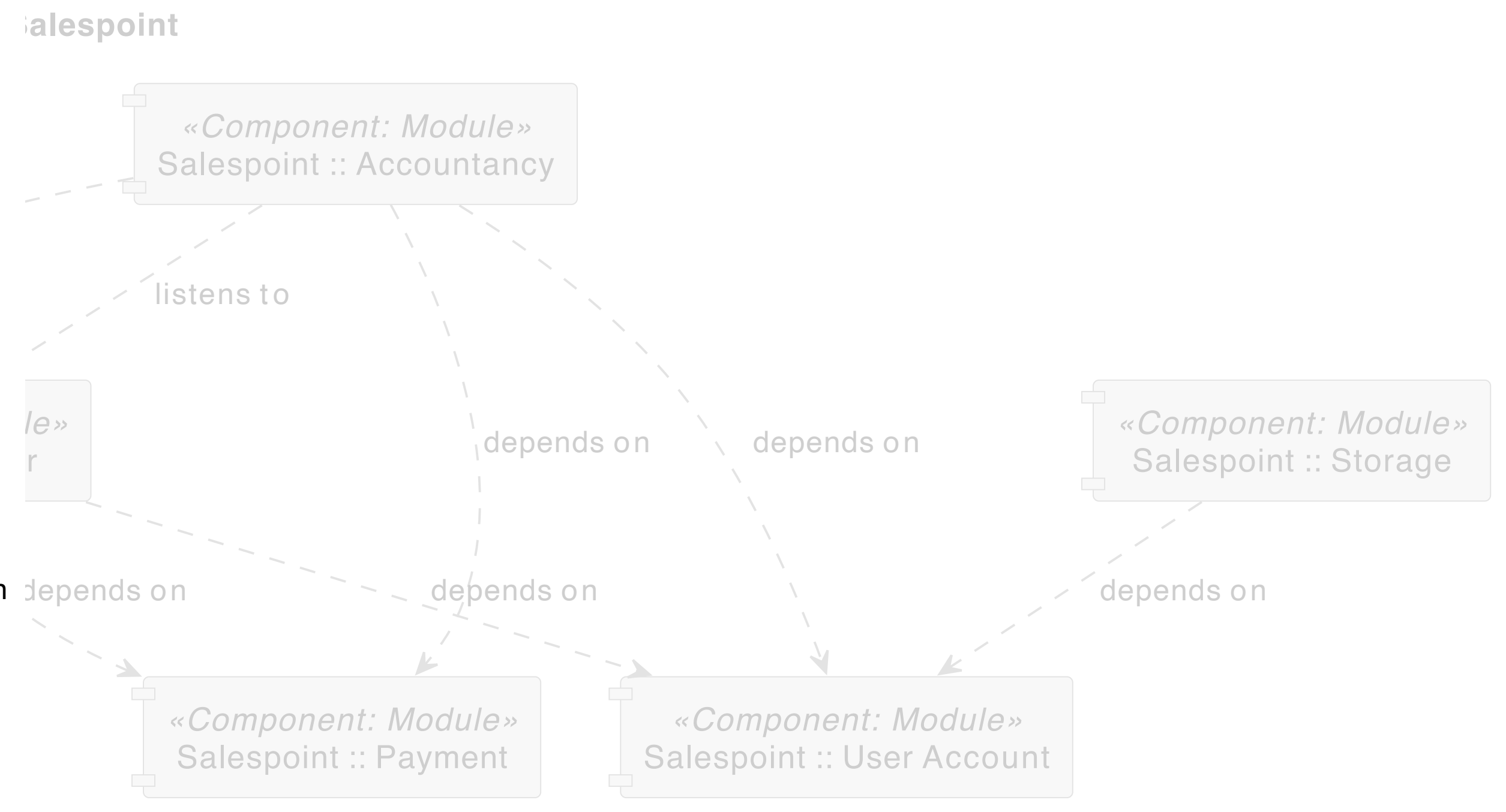
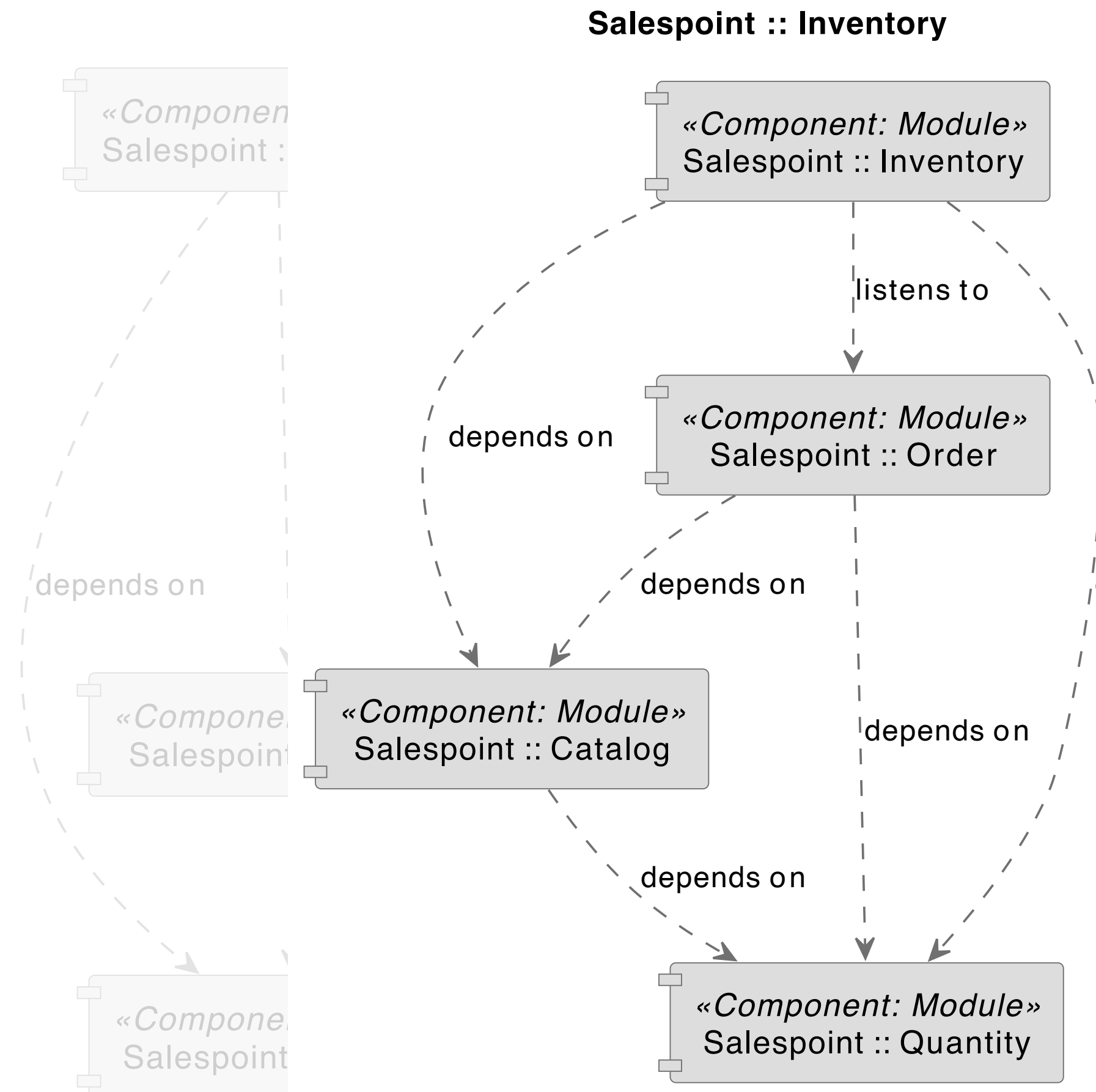
- ✓ **Exposed Service API**
Spring Beans available for DI
- ✓ **Exposed Aggregates**
Primary elements of the domain and constraints
- ✓ **Published Events**
Events the component emits

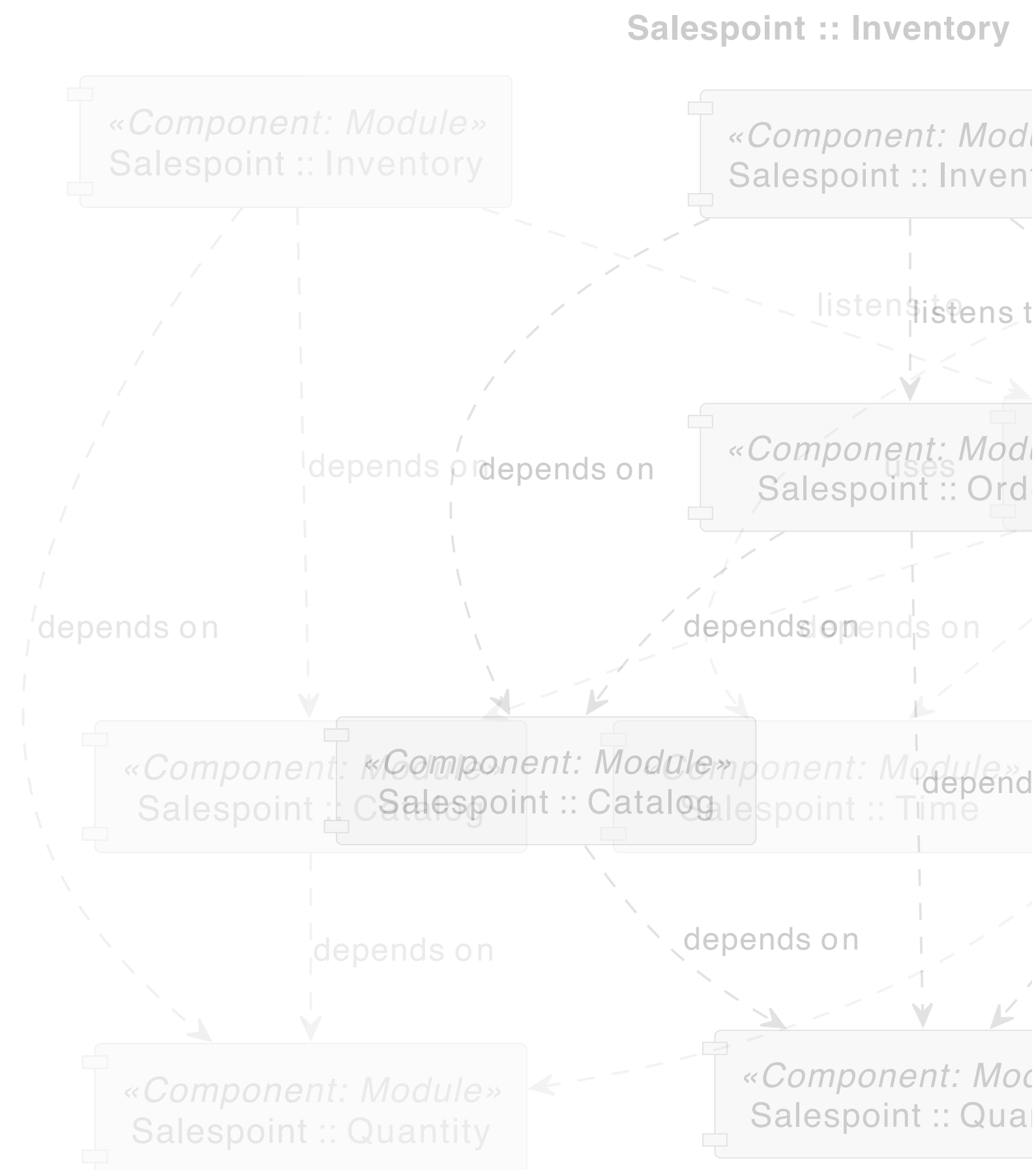
Required Interface

- ✓ **Consumed Service API**
External dependencies of Spring beans
- ✓ **Configuration**
Spring Boot configuration properties
- ✓ **Consumed Events**
Events that the component reacts to

Salespoint







Base package

`org.salespointframework.useraccount`

Spring components

Services

- `o.s.u.UserAccountManagement` (via `o.s.u.PersistentUserAccountManagement`)

Others

- `o.s.u.AuthenticationManagement` (via `o.s.u.SpringSecurityAuthenticationManagement`)

Aggregate roots

- `o.s.u.UserAccount`

Value types

- `o.s.u.EncryptedPassword`
- `o.s.u.UnencryptedPassword`
- `o.s.u.Role`

Published events

- `o.s.u.UserAccountCreated` created by:
 - `o.s.u.UserAccount.onCreate()`

Properties

- `salespoint.authentication.login-via-email` — `java.lang.Boolean`, default `false`. Enables the login procedure to use the email address to lookup a user instead of their username. Defaults to `false`.

Summary

Architectural concepts...

... are explicitly expressed in the code.

... are predefined based on established pattern languages.

... are defined by jMolecules (concepts)
and tool & framework integration (rules).

Architecturally Evident Applications – How to Bridge the Model-Code Gap?

Oliver Drotbohm (odrotbohm@vmware.com) in collaboration with
Henning Schwentner (henning.schwentner@wps.com) & Stephan Pirnbaum (stephan.pirnbaum@buschmais.de)
February 2022

Abstract

Over the course of its lifetime, every non-trivial piece of software will significantly grow in complexity. The extent of that growth significantly affects the ability to evolve it to avoid having to replace it with a costly rewrite eventually. Thus, managing that complexity has been the topic of interest in the software community, and architectural and design pattern languages have been identified as a means to achieve that. But even if the conceptual models of an application use that language, a fundamental challenge remains: how to express those abstract concepts in the actual codebase?

This paper explores a novel approach that enables developers to explicitly express architectural and design concepts in application code, which ultimately enables:

- **Understandability** – By finding the architectural language in code, it is easier for developers to understand the code base, relate individual elements of it to the bigger picture and, ultimately, make architecture more accessible.
- **Documentation** – With abstract concepts present in the code base, we can extract documentation about it that is correct by definition and describes it at an architectural abstraction level.
- **Verification** – We can verify that our implementation adheres to the rules associated with the concepts that the individual elements of the code base implement at different levels of architectural abstraction.
- **Reduction of boilerplate code** – At the application boundaries, domain model elements have to be persisted into some data store or exposed to clients by APIs. Architectural concepts, directly expressed in those elements, allow transparently defaulting such mappings into popular implementation technologies.

This paper presents the fundamental idea in detail, as well as a Java library to express architectural and design concepts, and contrasts it to alternative approaches. It concludes with a presentation of the support of that library in a variety of associated integration technologies to implement the aspects described above.

Introduction

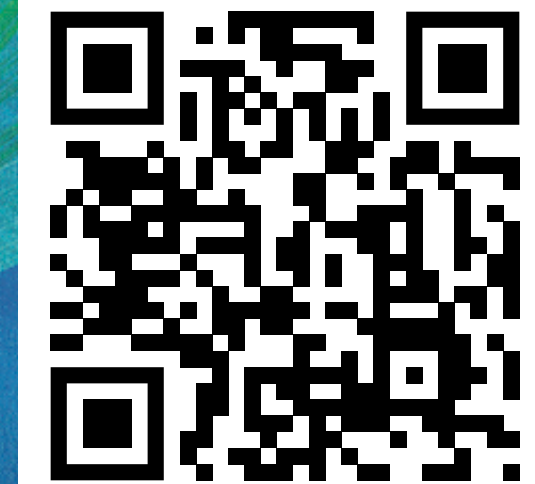
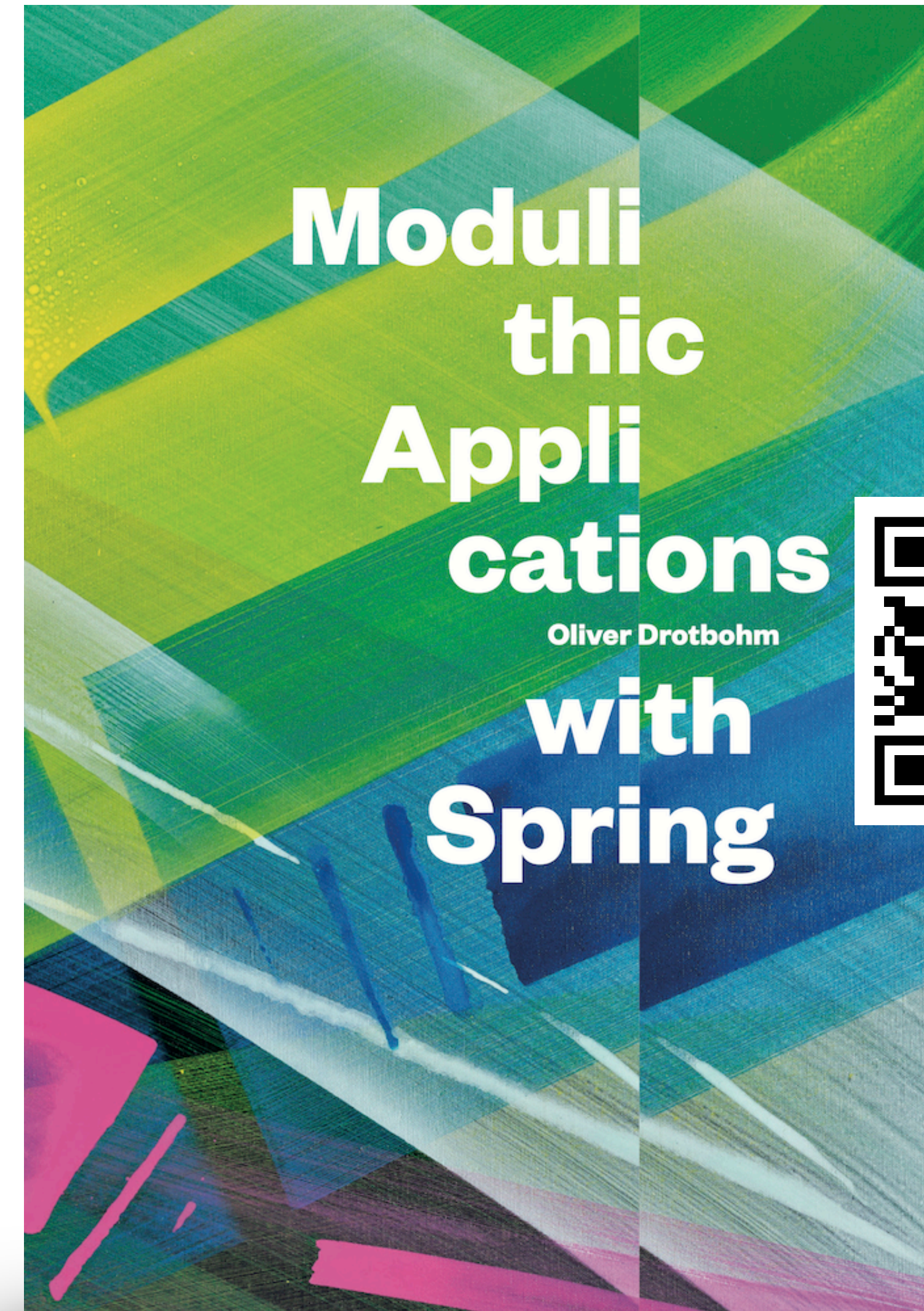
Bridging the gap between architectural patterns and code bases has been an ongoing challenge when writing

long-living business software. We would like to present an approach to express these patterns directly in code by using programming-language-specific means and describe how that approach becomes an enabler to create code that is more expressive, more understandable, more correct and ultimately easier to change. The paper uses Java as an example because it is a very ubiquitous language in enterprise applications. However, the approach can be transferred to other languages, too.

Over the last 1.5 years, a prototypical implementation has been implemented in a cross-company collaboration effort between VMware, WPS Solutions (Hamburg) BUSCHMAIS (Dresden). It can be found under a pre-named jMolecules on GitHub [jMolecules].

Fundamentally, we need a mechanism to express architectural artifacts in the codebase. In Java, two primary language constructs are great candidates to achieve this: annotations and types. We will have a detailed look at the pros and cons of each later. jMolecules currently provides annotations for the following architectural concepts: the Domain-Driven Design (DDD) building blocks described in [evanso] events and event listeners, and the parts of particular architectural styles, such as onion architecture [palmoo8], layered architecture, and CQRS system. The DDD and event concepts are also available as J interfaces alternatively.

Developers can refer to the concept library in their application build files so that the architectural definitions become an inherent part of the code base. This results in more expressive code that has a more direct connection to the architectural model in the first place and, thus, supports understanding the implementation. The metadata available within the code enables extensive integration with external technology to verify the implementation against the model expressed in the code and extract architecture and developer documentation. To run on ubiquitous technical platforms (such as Spring Framework [spring]) and integrate seamlessly with persistence technology (such as the Jakarta Persistence API (JPA) [jpa] or commonly used serialization APIs like Jackson [jackson]), domain code usually has to be augmented with boilerplate code, like annotations or additional models which significantly increases the accidental complexity of applications.



Links

> **xMolecules**

<https://xmolecules.org>

> **jMolecules**

<https://jmolecules.org>

> **jMolecules Examples**

<https://github.com/xmolecules/jmolecules-examples>

> **Gitter – Join the community!**

<https://gitter.im/xmolecules/xmolecules>

Resources

➤ **Software Architecture for Developers**

Simon Brown – [Books](#)

➤ **Just Enough Software Architecture**

George Fairbanks – [Book](#)

➤ **Architecture, Design, Implementation**

Ammon H. Eden, Rick Kazman – [Paper](#)

➤ **Sustainable Software Architecture**

Carola Lilienthal – [Book](#)

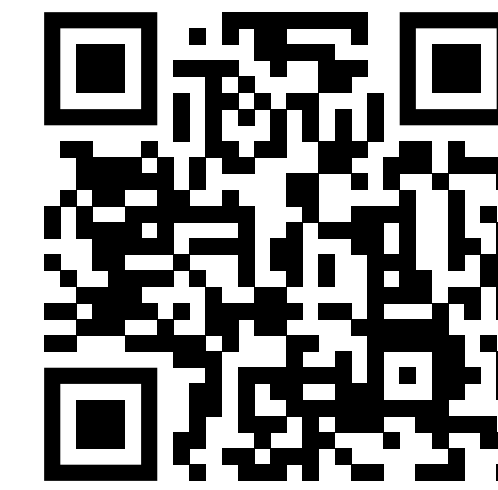
➤ **The Programmer's Brain**

Felienne Hermans – [Book](#)

Thank you! ***Questions?***



Paper



Book

Oliver Drotbohm

   odrotbohm

 oliver.drotbohm@broadcom.com