

# Ercatons und Organisches Programmieren mit Java & XML: Planwirtschaft adé

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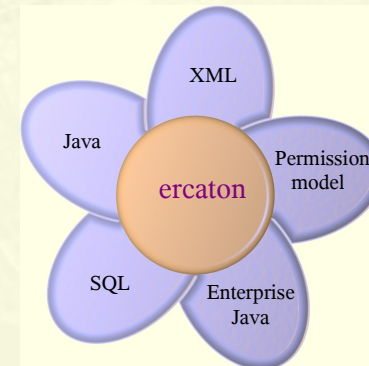
ercato.de



POWERED BY  
orion\*

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- I. Things & Organic Software Engineering
- II. Ercatons (hands-on)
- III. New horizon & going Open Source



(this is an ercaton 😊)

# Part I

## Organic Programming (Things & Organic Software Engineering)

*“complexity emerges from  
simplicity”*

# The Manifesto of Organic Programming\*

*The exception is the rule.*

- §1 *Our world is **rich** and complex rather than well-structured and simple.*
- §2 *Software must cover **irregular**, changing patterns rather than regular patterns.*
- §3 *A software system is an **organic** being rather than a set of mathematical algorithms.*
- §4 *Software components are an **integral part** of our rich world rather than entities at some meta level.*
- §5 *Complex software **emerges** when evolving from small to large rather than from concrete to abstract.*

# Software *is* complex ...

... isn't it ?

You are sure, aren't you?

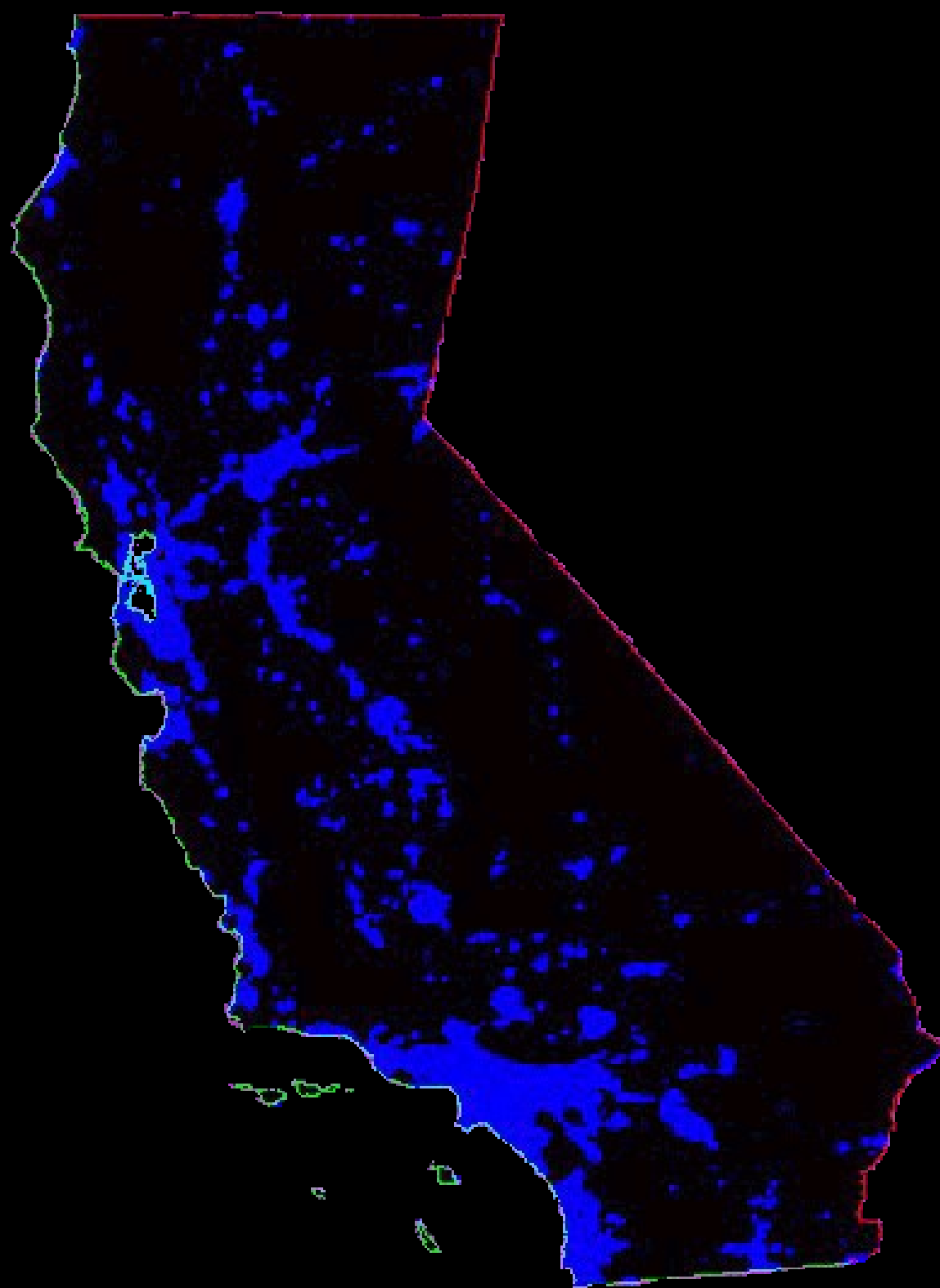
Maybe, let's first have a look at ...

*...some really complex stuff*





















by comparison actually,  
***software is uncomplex!***  
(only causing terrible trouble to create)

- Today, (OO) software is regular and planned.
- Today, (OO) software cannot grow to the complexity of other systems built by humans.
- Today, (OO) software is harder than hardware...
- Today, we got a problem.



# Point of failure of planful software engineering

1/5

For example: *Enterprise Java (Java EE) delivers cost-effective and adequate solutions to approach real-world complexity?*

- Actually, it is a mess out there...
- We've seen **1 billion \$** projects for tax software ...  
... fail!



# Point of failure of planful software engineering

2/5

*Ladies and Gentlemen,  
and now*

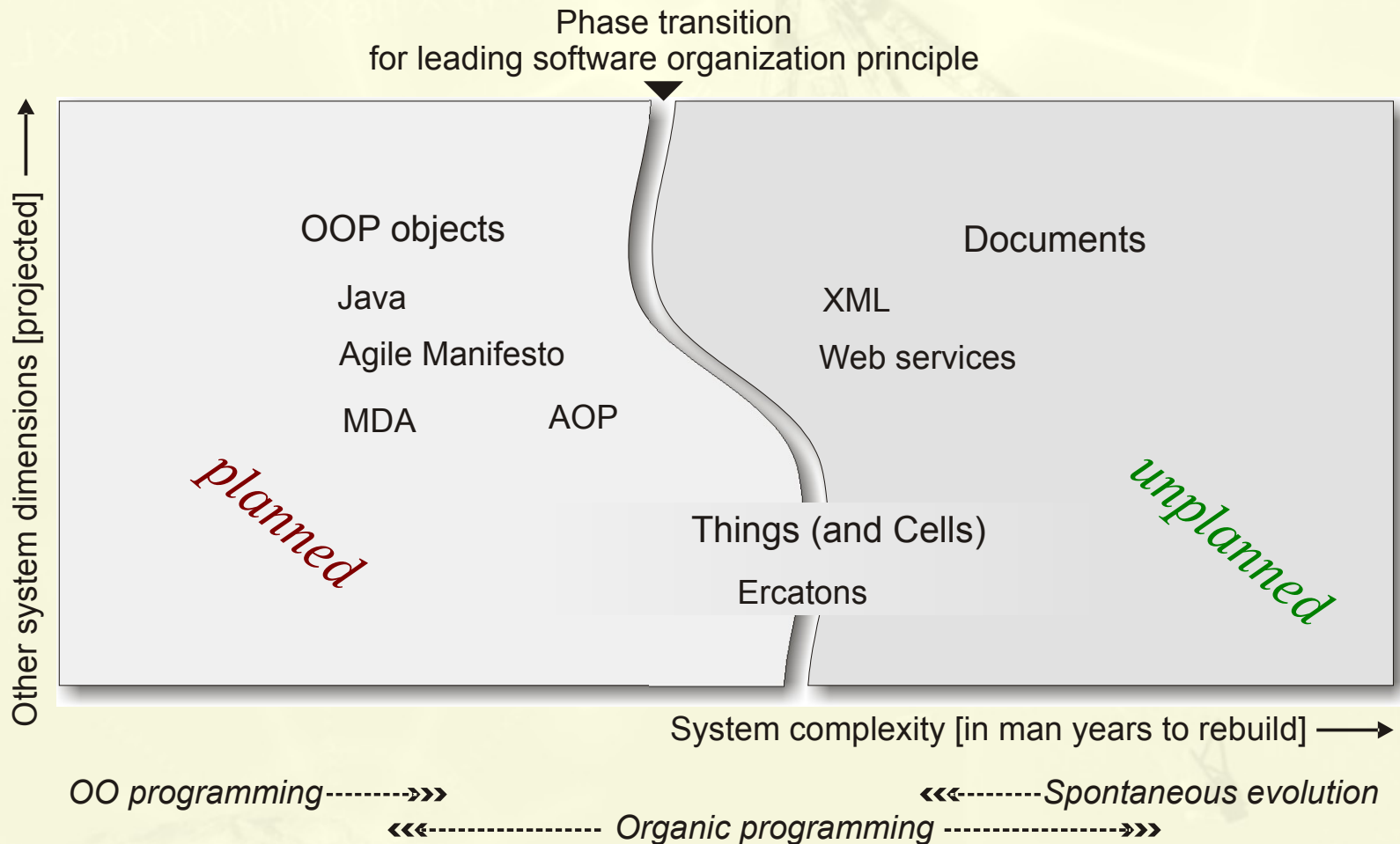
*MDA - Model Driven Architecture  
will do the trick?*

(automated generation  
of **working** programs  
from their blueprints?)



# Point of failure of planful software engineering

3/5



# Point of failure of planful software engineering

4/5

*The failure really is:*

*True complexity  
emerges from simplicity  
and cannot be planned*

# Point of failure of planful software engineering

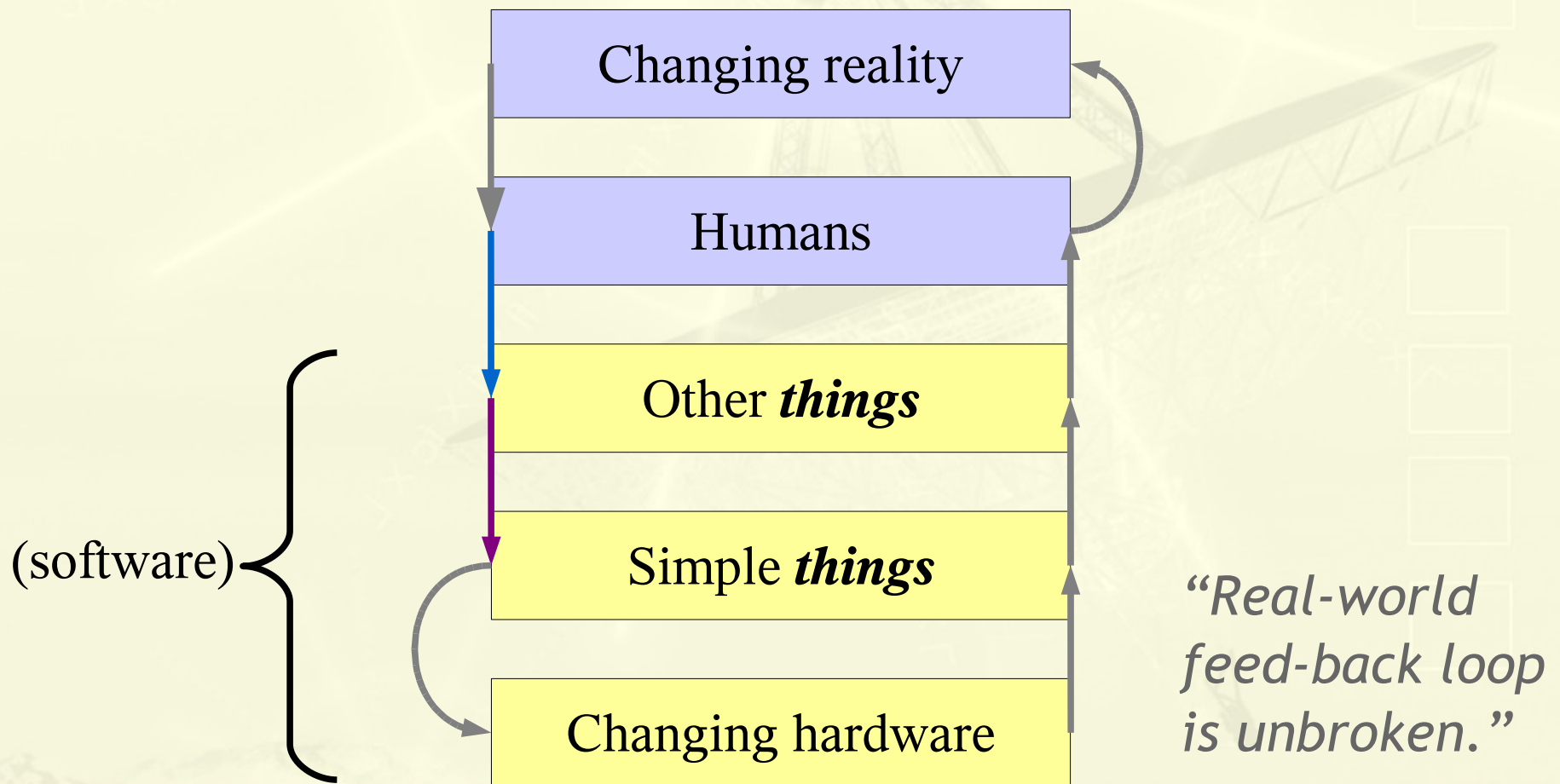
5/5



*complexity emerges from simplicity  
even in software engineering!*



# How simple (software) *things* can grow complex



# How simple *things* can be defined (1 / 3)

- ▶ *things* are software entities which must behave like *real-world objects* as much as possible
- ▶ If a real-world counterpart is virtual, then *thing* and real-world object must be *indistinguishable* (bank account, tax declaration document, ...)
- ▶ *things* depend on a programming language only where algorithms get involved

# How simple *things* can be defined (2/3)

Def.: A *thing* is a self-contained entity, with **identity**, **behavior**, with inner **state** and **structure**, with user<sup>†</sup> and model<sup>‡</sup> **interfaces**, with **ownership** and with self-determined **lifecycle** and **privacy**, in both *software* and *reality*.

Def.: A *cell* is a thing which may act w/o external stimulus.

†: we can touch, see and manipulate

‡: we can abstract, in order to think about or to code algorithms

# How simple *things* can be defined (3/3)

Why software can be harder than hardware:

- Assuming screws being things, (which may be shortened in the field)
- then Java classes aren't things! (cannot be modified in the field)

Is why OO isn't thing-oriented.

Is why OO breaks the real-world loop.



# Such a simple thing?

- most simple thing example which may possibly work:

**Let's count votes**

e.g., George W. Bush vs. Al Gore ...

- Time for a quick demo :)



# Such a simple thing!

and our 1<sup>st</sup> creation - both *document* & *object*

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<census>
  <election>US 2000</election>
  <district>
    Mission Bay, San Diego, California
  </district>
  <bush>1</bush>
  <gore>2</gore>
</census>
```



**<bush>1</bush>**



**<gore>2</gore>**

**</census>**

# Such a simple thing - but no simpler

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<census xmlns:erc="http://ercato.com/xmlns/ErcatoCore">
  <erc:id>~falk/census</erc:id>
  <election>US 2000</election>
  <district>
    Mission Bay, San Diego, California
  </district>
  <bush>1</bush>
  <gore>2</gore>
  <erc:action name="Gore">
    /bin/increment <erc:arg name="xpath"> //gore </erc:arg>
  </erc:action>
  <erc:action name="Bush">
    /bin/increment <erc:arg name="xpath"> //bush </erc:arg>
  </erc:action>
</census>
```

# Such a simple thing - the GUI

- What we got...
- ... a transaction-safe system with persistence and a user interface to count the votes of Bush and Gore.
- ... which may be changed arbitrarily while in operation!

~falk/census	
election	US 2000
district	Mission Bay, San Diego, California
bush	1
gore	2
<input type="button" value="Bush"/> <input type="button" value="Gore"/>	

# Such a simple thing - achievements

- Provides something which is and feels as **simple** as a screw, in order to assemble arbitrarily complex systems from.
- The *creation* of software is like *building*, not like *modelling*, *generating* or *programming*.
- *Preserves* all the inherent potential for *organic growth* which is present in our natural way of “building with things”.
- *Confines programming* to the purely *algorithmic* parts of a solution, there to be reused.

# Part II

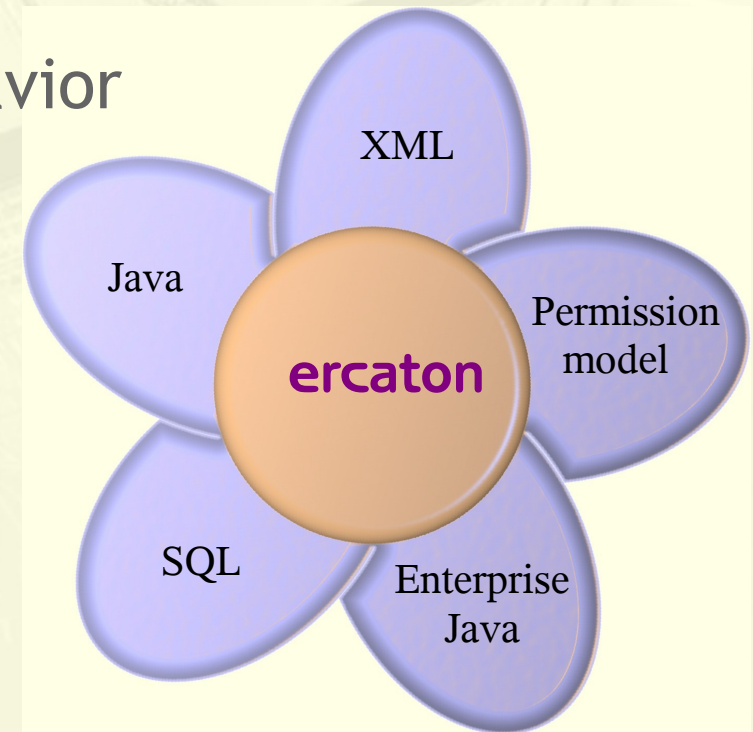
ercatons

*“everything is a thing,  
by definition”*



# ercatons “implement” *things*

- ▶ ercatons are *things* based on XML and, e.g. Java
- ▶ ercatons encapsulate state *and* behavior
- ▶ ercatons are business objects
- ▶ ercatons are documents
- ▶ ercatons merge many older ideas into one unified concept



*(ercato specification is a virtual machine contract for execution)*

# ercato specification summary

Def.: An **ercaton** is a **thing**, with at least,  
a model interface to **XML**,  
with **inheritance** and **polymorphism**,  
with a mutable **web** user-interface,  
with behaviour bound to **XSLT** and a **Java**-like language,  
with **database** and **transaction** support and  
with **autonomous life** (cell).

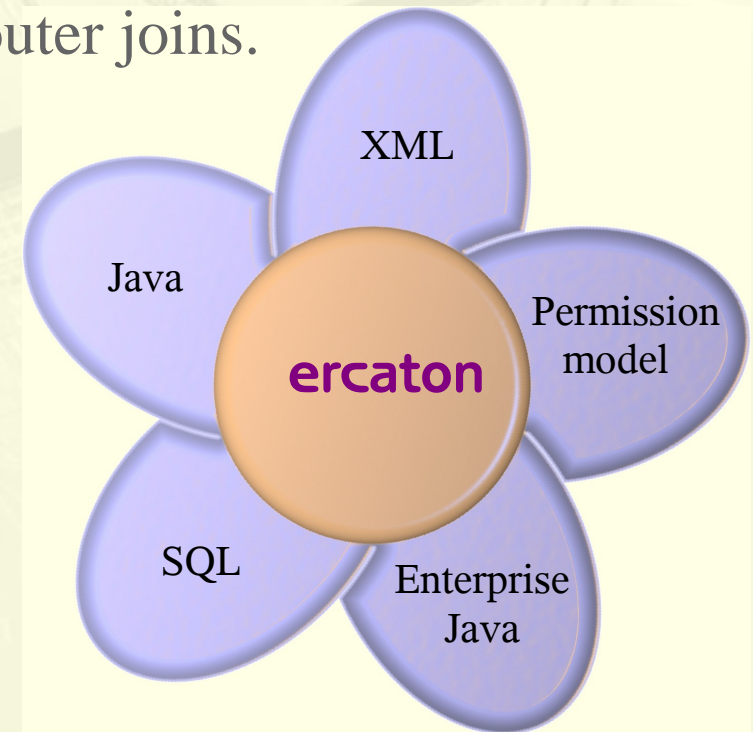
This means that an ercaton stands up for itself, e.g., it does not depend on a class, that it has a **unique name** and is persistent and protected, and that each ercaton is an individual entity where no two are equal

Named after mercato and elementary particle convention (electron)

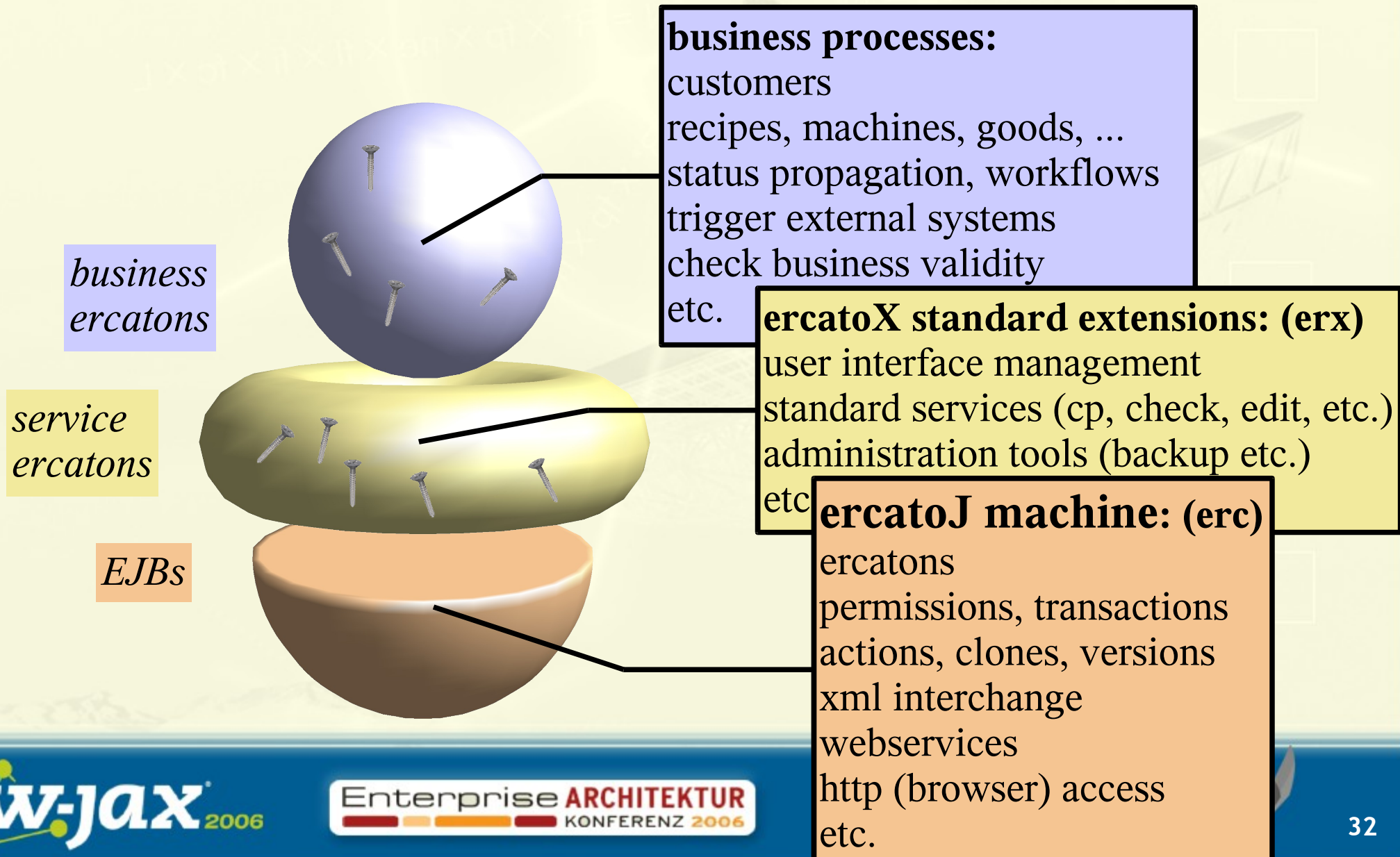
# ercatoJ virtual machine summary

ercatons ...

- ... are protected by **transactions** and **permissions** and ... are supported by **indexing** in a database.
- ... support **SQL**-like queries with inner and outer joins.
- ... are **persistent** and **versioned**.
- ... dynamically **inherit** allowing extraction of common parts of the business logic.
- ... have **user interfaces** by target pipes.
- ... may be binary “resource” ercatons; i.e., **code (Java) may change at runtime**.
- ... have **owners** and a capability chain to **protect** their state.



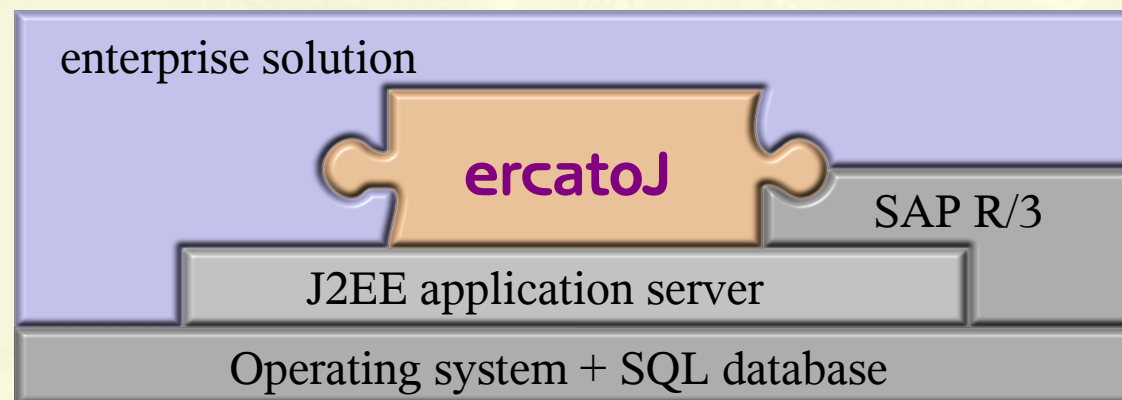
# ercatoJ hierarchy





# ercatoJ vm made by Living Pages:

- (1) Ercatons are mapped onto **Enterprise JavaBeans** (EJBs).
- (2) Powerful **algebra for XML** which maps OO principles to math ops.
- (3) Behaviour of ercatons expressed in both Java and/or XSLT.
- (4) WebServices and plain XML exchange available, e.g. for SAP/R3.
- (5) Naked ercatons, user interface web-based, console via esh, or Swing-RC.
- (6) Everything may be an ercaton, incl. images and binary code.
- (7) Complex database schemes are generated and kept synchronized.



# Other simple demo examples

- Task: Design & implementation of an “**Address Manager**” application, then grew to an “**Invoice Manager**”.
- Detail: Enterprise-quality and extensible
- Budget: ... 15 person minutes for part 1  
... ~1 day for part 2  
(demonstrated *during* DMS 2006!)

here we go...

# *~falk/bunny* is an ercaton



```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="iso-8859-1"?>
<address
xmlns:erc="http://ercato.com/xmlns/ErcatoCore">
  <erc:id>~falk/bunny</erc:id>
  <erc:clone>~livis/adr/base</erc:clone>
  <name      >Easter Bunny</name>
  <street    >Wiese 7</street>
  <zipcode   >12345</zipcode>
  <phone     >0190 666 666</phone>
</address>
```

# ~falk/bunny and (4) friends

Ercato Home - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Google

Adresse <http://www.living-pages.de/erc>

/Address

in die Zwischenablage alle markieren [tmp]

Name (>)	street	zipcode	city
[+] name: a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z *			
<input type="checkbox"/> !New		0	
<input type="checkbox"/> Easter Bunny	Wiese 7	12345	Waldbröhl

edit delete copy check

name Easter Bunny  
street Wiese 7  
zipcode 12345  
city Waldbröhl  
phone 0190 666 666

<http://www.living-pages.de/erc/saton~demo/Easter-Bunnyfwi0xr> Internet



# *~livis/adr/base* : class or template?

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<address xmlns:erc="http://ercato.com/xmlns/ErcatoCore"
  xmlns:erx="http://ercato.com/xmlns/ErcatoExtensions">
  <erc:id>~livis/adr/base</erc:id>
  <erc:type>prototype</erc:type>
  <erc:catalog category="/Address" id-ref="~livis/catalog"/>

  <name      erx:field-ref="string" erc:index="~livis/catalog"/>
  <street    erx:field-ref="string" erc:index="~livis/catalog"/>
  <zipcode   erx:field-ref="int"     erc:index="~livis/catalog"/>
  <city      erx:field-ref="string" erc:index="~livis/catalog"/>
  <phone     erx:field-ref="string"/>

  <erc:action name="edit">    /bin/edit      </erc:action>
  <erc:action name="delete">  /bin/rm!wizard </erc:action>
  <erc:action name="copy">    /bin/cp!forEdit </erc:action>
  <erc:action name="check">   ~livis/check.xsl
    <erc:arg name="default">San Diego</erc:arg>
  </erc:action>
  <erc:trigger name="on-change">!check</erc:trigger>
</address>
```

# Invoice manager

Ercato Demo - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Datei Bearbeiten Ansicht Favoriten Extras ?

Zurück Suchen Favoriten Links Ercato Bunny Ercato Census Ercato Demo

Adresse <http://werner.living-pages.de/erc/atos/~demo/start> Google

**Ercato Demo** Demo User logout

**Catalog**

- /
  - Address
  - Application
  - Demo News
  - DMS Demo
    - Ansichten
    - Rechnungsbearbeit
    - Dokumente
    - Objekte
    - Rechnungen
      - Freigegeben
      - Gelöscht
      - Offen
      - Zu klären
      - Zugewiesen
    - Sammelaktionen
  - Doku
  - Elections
  - Queries
  - queries
  - System
  - Travel

**Rechnungsbearbeitung**

>> | Zwischenablage Bearbeiter zuordnen | Edit Query | Delete Query | Save As | Share | Query |

☐ in die Zwischenablage alle markieren ~dms.demo/queries/views/invoicep

Beleg-Nr. (<)	Sachbearbeiter	Eingang	Belegdatum	Lief.-Nr.	Lief.-Name	Netto	Brutto	NNVA	Best.-Nr.	Quelle
[+] name: a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z *										1 - 4 max: 100
<input type="checkbox"/> 0062473207308 Export		11.09.2006	10.09.2006	027257	VELIT Handels GmbH	2668.86	3095.88		712017	paper
<input type="checkbox"/> 0062473207307 Export		11.09.2006	10.09.2006	027256	Personality AG	5595.25	6490.49		712017	paper

**/session/edit9uj858**

save | cancel

version 27

NNVA

Beleg-Nr. 0062473207307

Bestellnr. 71201

Bestellung Datum Lieferscheinnr.

Betrag Netto MWSt.

5595.25

Datum Eingang Beleg Erfassung

11.09.2006 10.09.2006

Fälligkeit Valuta

Lieferant 027256

Kunde ZR-Nr. Kundenr.

Rechnungsnr.

Beleg ~dms.demo/sample/rechnung/0062473207307/beleg

Währung

Sachbearbeiter Export

71201 auto

712015

712016

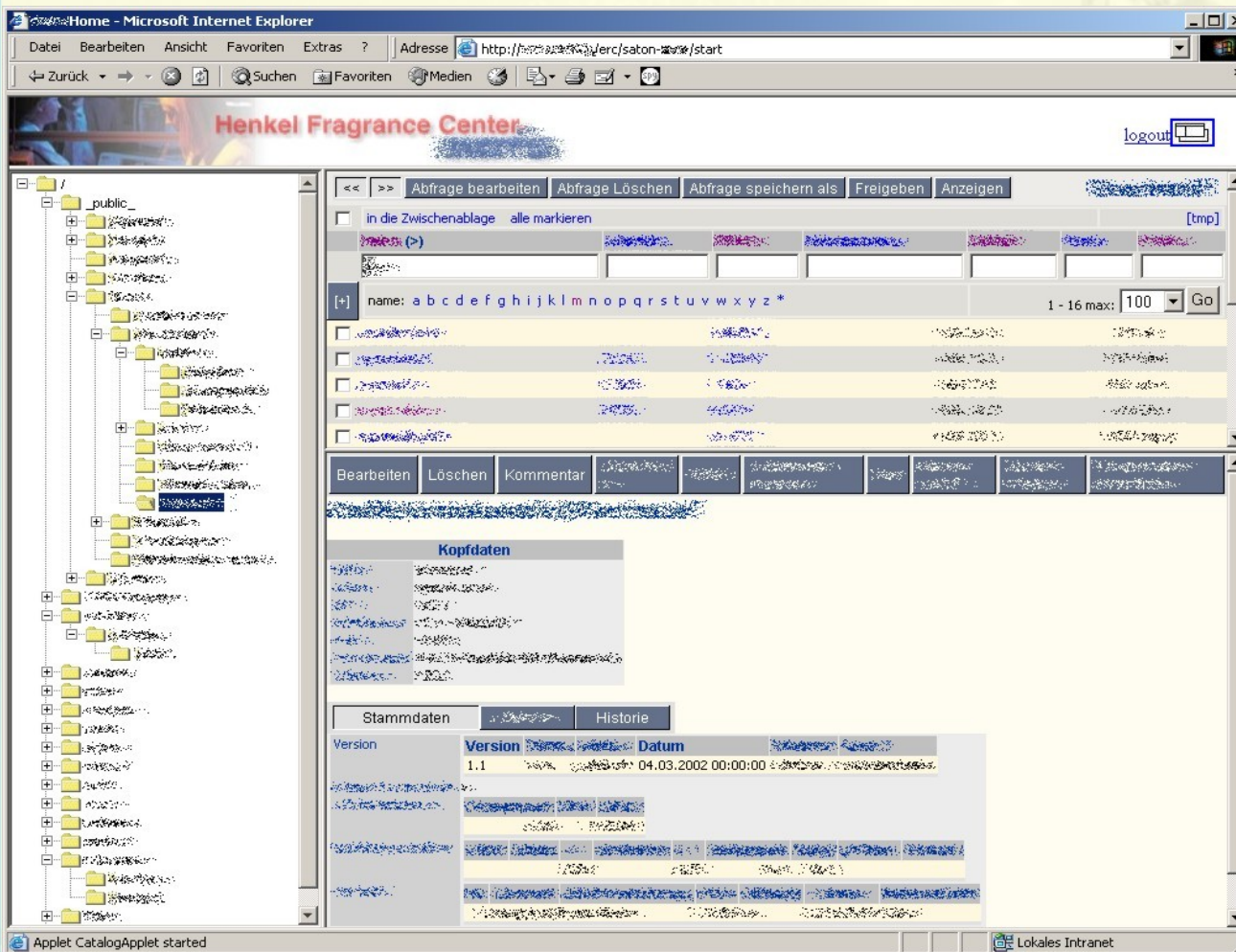
712017

☐ Mehrfach-Selektion

OK Suchen... Abbrechen

powered by ercatons

# Henkel A deployed corporate solution...



- Browser based intranet solution
- J2EE server application

## *Features:*

- Document-centric, versioned
- Efficient configurable data mining
- Generated user interface
- “Better than html” controls
- Comprehensible implementation of workflow

# EKATO Another deployed solution...

- Rich intranet client
- J2EE server application

## Features:

- Solution archive
- Complex business rule set
- Business rule factory in Java
- Generated “Rich Client”
- Powerful output mngmnt.  
multi-language/  
multi-format (PDF, CAD,...)
- Developed by customer

Antos 2 Mechanik - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Blattzahl <input type="text" value="2"/> Förderrichtung nach unten d2 [mm] <input type="text" value="800.0"/> d2/d1 <input type="text" value="0.22"/> n2 [min <sup>-1</sup> ] <input type="text" value="110.0"/> u [m/s] <input type="text" value="4.61"/> α [°] <input type="text" value="25.0"/> β [°] <input type="text" value="0.0"/> Nabe Schiebenabe KS I Zentrierring/ Endorgan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cr-Wert <input type="text" value="0.03"/> Reynoldszahl <input type="text" value="2029867.0"/> Ne H2O <input type="text" value="0.29"/> Ne <input type="text" value="0.29"/> Σ P Organtypen [kW] <input type="text" value="1.01"/> Σ P Organ [kW] <input type="text" value="1.01"/> Σ P/V [kW/m <sup>3</sup> ] <input type="text" value="0.03"/> Länge l [mm] <input type="text" value="5364.0"/>	Motor Art einfach Bauform V1 Internes Getriebe E-Motor Spannung [V] 460 Netzfrequenz [Hz] 60.0 Schutzart 55 Ex-Schutz nicht ex. Norm NEMA Beistellung mit Rührwerk VT-Modus <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FU-Betrieb <input type="checkbox"/> MT-Verlauf Regelbereich f <sub>η=max</sub> [Hz] f <sub>max</sub> [Hz] FU-P <sub>f=max</sub> [kW] Leistung <sub>henn</sub> [kW] 2.2 n1 <sub>max</sub> [min <sup>-1</sup> ] Motorbezeichnung 182TC
Rührwelle 80_MASSIV 5.22 Rührwelle W [mm] 80_MASSIV 5.88 Mb ohne/mit Durchtritt 383.0 767.0 nk [min <sup>-1</sup> ] / n2/nk 83.8 1.31 Wellenende GLATT Einbauten Wellenende Drehrichtung rechts	Getriebe Stirnrad KA <sub>Soll</sub> 1.5 KA <sub>Ist</sub> 1.7 Typ gemäß EKATO SK22F Flanschausführung Art der Abtriebsw... Beistellung Öl
Dichtung ESD44ESM Gleitringe 3 SIC/SIC/C/... Baureihe VDH120 Hoc... Sperrflüssigkeit Optileb GT 100 O-Ringe 1 FKM/FKM Werkstoff Installa... C 1.4571/1... integrierte Lagerung <input type="checkbox"/>	

16:53:51 -!- info:  
 Keine Defaultwerte für Dichtung gefunden.  
 Es ist kein Preis für die GLRD-Dichtung in der DB vorhanden.  
 Der Wellendurchmesser Lagerwelle wurde über L/W ausgelegt!  
 Dichteneingabe fehlt



# Part III

## New Horizon & going Open Source

*“ideas are  
unanticipated”*

# Patterns we did not expect

- Builder ercatons.
- Aspect weavers.
- Self protection and healing.
- Repackaging pattern.
- Separation of “text” and “data” re-emerges as a pattern:
  - The “firewall” pattern
- Agent ercatons (after adding a “goal”).
- Autonomous evolution:
  - Cross combination is just another XML operator.
  - Mutations don't hurt algorithms.
  - Selection by observer (“Other” ercatons or user).
- ...

# going Open Source

Open source project **ercato.org** considered

- License model:
  - GNU source code model
  - No constraint on consultancy business models
  - Constraint on competing commercial re-implementations
- Pre condition:
  - 95% feature list completion
  - 80% documentation completion
  - Evidence of external interest

Problem: **ercatons** are massive innovation where open source projects typically copy existing stuff.

# Conclusion

Turns software engineers into creators rather than programmers.  
Large, complex systems are feasible and stay to grow organically.  
It is saving lot of time and money.

***Organic software engineering***  
exists and works!

*“Maybe someday all  
large-scale objects  
will be Ercatonical.”*



**David Ungar**  
Principal Investigator  
Sun Labs, Mountain View

*P.S. The specification is open,  
the ercatoJ implementation is free  
for research partners,  
an open-source project is considered.*

*“Ercatons were easy to use  
and breathtakingly efficient.  
Once you get the idea you  
wonder how you ever worked  
without it.”*



**Dr. Ralf Marsula**  
Senior Consultant  
Clavis Berater sozietät GmbH, Bremen



# Conclusion

Turns software engineers into creators rather than consumers

Large, complex systems are feasible and affordable

It is saving lot of time and money

*Organic software engineering*

exists and works!

**Thinkorganic!**

**Cashew Pecan**

**100% ORGANIC FRUIT AND NUT SNACK BAR**

USDA  
ORGANIC

No Added Sugar

All Natural

Vegan

Wheat & Gluten Free

No Trans Fat

NET WT 1.76 OZ (50g)

Thinking Organic.  
the highest quality  
of farm products.

Thank you for trying our Thinkorganic fruit and nut snack bars. The ingredients we use in Thinkorganic are the highest quality and the conservation of the environment is our top priority.

*considered.*

*“Ercatons were easy to use and breathtakingly efficient. Once you get the idea you wonder how you ever worked without it.”*

**Dr. Ralf Marsula**  
Senior Consultant  
Clavis Berater sozietät GmbH, Bremen



Enterprise **ARCHITEKTUR**  
KONFERENZ 2006