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Migration from Java EE Application Server to Server- side OSGi for Process Management and Event Handling

Content

- Migration problem areas
- Requirements
- Migration solutions and patterns
- Lessons learned
- Wish list

Motivation for migration

- Migrate from GINGER to Roots
 - Paradigm reduction: Process Management, Messaging, and Event Processing → **Event Processing**
 - Older components became hard to maintain, needed some re-engineering
 - CTO would like to have something new 😊

Why OSGi?

- Best support for:
 - Modularisation
 - Service-orientation
 - Component dependencies
- A lot of useful predefined services
- Open source implementations available

Existing Product: GINGER

Standards:
WfMC, JEE,
BPMN

Software Engineer

Process Designer

GINGER Server based on JBoss 4

Process
Engine

JBI
Transfer

Monitoring

Convert
SDOM

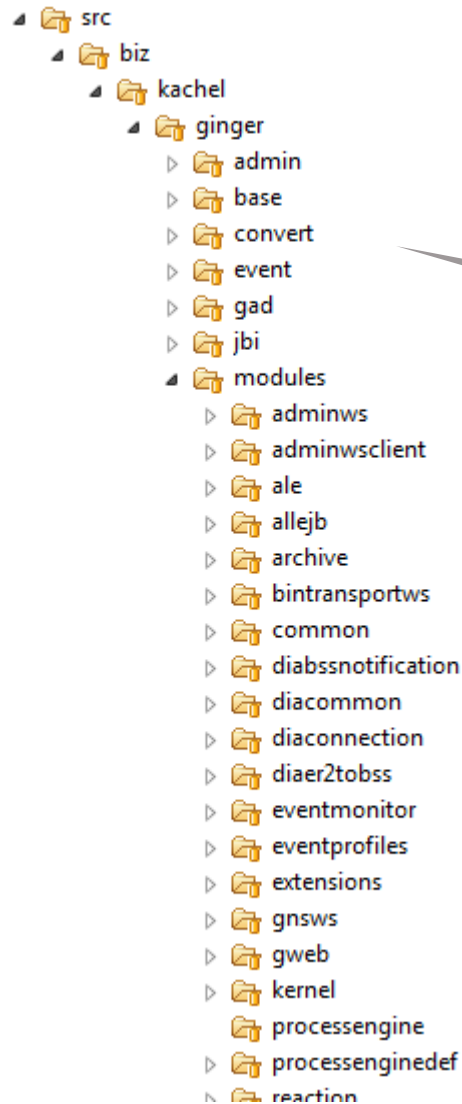
GSB

Repository

Console / Monitor

Administrator / User

Existing Software Structure

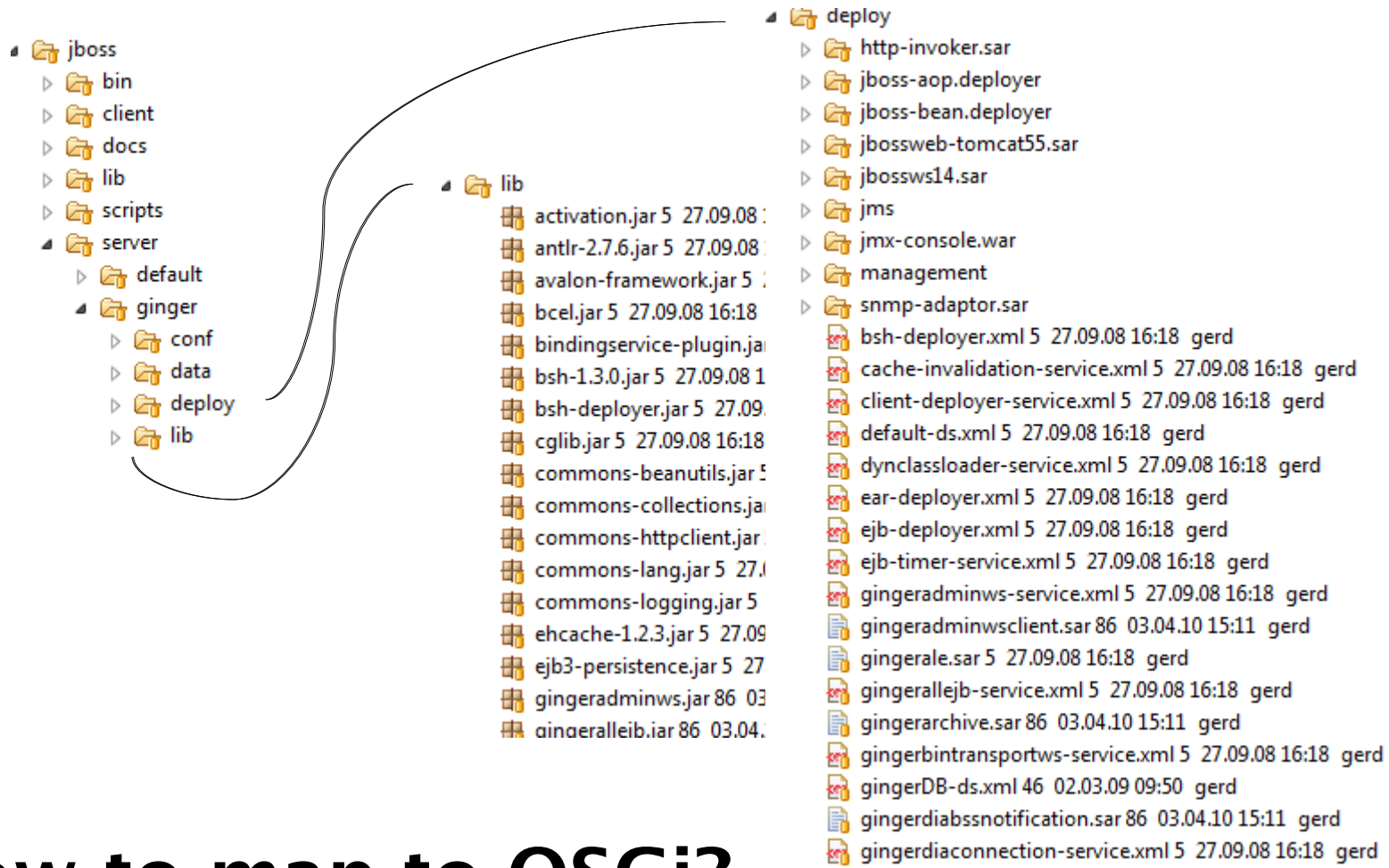


How to map to OSGi?

Components
(jars)

Modules
(JBoss MBean
services)

Existing Software Structure

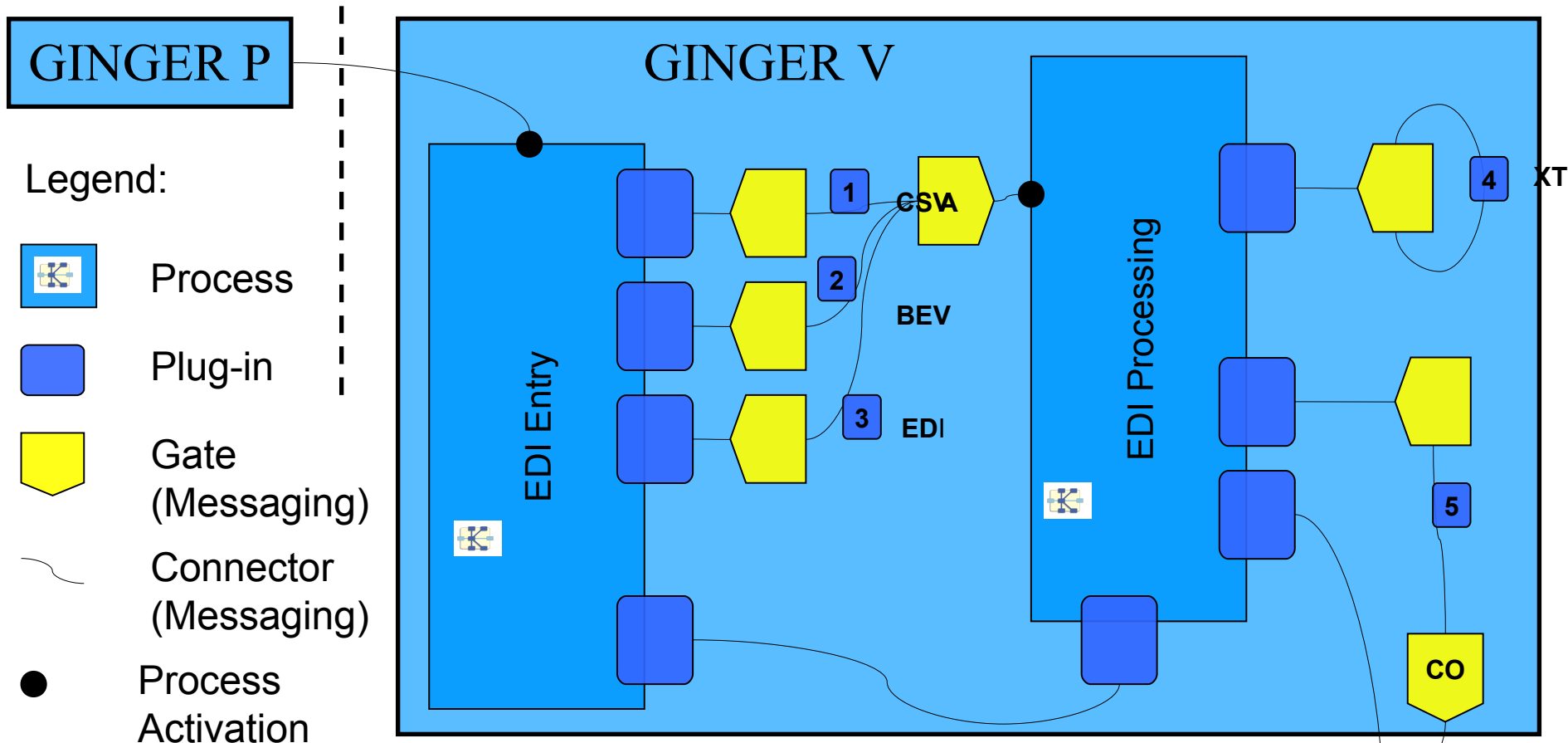


How to map to OSGi?

Ginger/JBoss

- Ginger/JBoss are composed of functional components and modules (FCM)
- Problems to solve
 - Find functional substitutes in OSGi
 - Identify FCM to embed in OSGi
 - Identify FCM to port to OSGi
 - Identify new FCM to be implemented

Existing Applications



**Plug-ins are POJOs:
How to map to OSGi?**

Cobol System

Summary: Problem Areas

- Two kinds of software
 - Product
 - Applications of the product
- Two major problem areas
 - Mapping of software structure
 - Mapping of functional building blocks

Requirements

- Overall requirements
 - Minimum cost
 - Re-use as much as possible
 - Replace old components by OSGi technology
- Overall OSGi requirements
 - Use of Equinox (as starting point); today part of Eclipse RT
 - Use of declarative services

Migration Solutions / Patterns

Derived from problem areas:

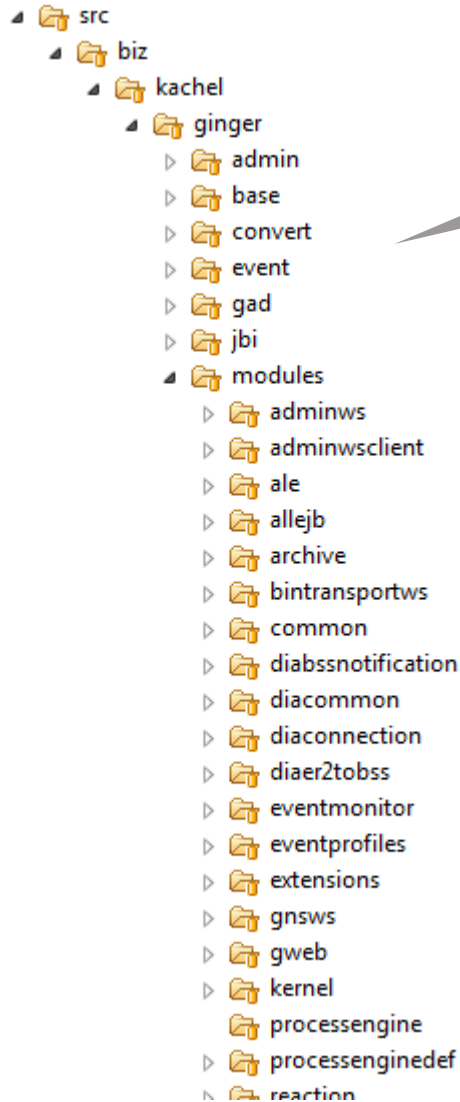
**Product
Software Structure
(PS)**

**Application
Software Structure
(AS)**

**Product
Functionality
(PF)**

**Application
Functionality
(AF)**

Map Components to Bundles



Components
(jars)

Mappings:

- Intuitive:
Component → OSGi Bundle
- One to one: for good software designs

| | |
|----|----|
| PS | AS |
| PF | AF |

Bad Software Designs

```
lib
activation.jar 5 27.09.08 16:18 gerd
antlr-2.7.6.jar 5 27.09.08 16:18 gerd
avalon-framework.jar 5 27.09.08 16:18 gerd
bcel.jar 5 27.09.08 16:18 gerd
bindingservice-plugin.jar 5 27.09.08 16:18 gerd
bsh-1.3.0.jar 5 27.09.08 16:18 gerd
bsh-deployer.jar 5 27.09.08 16:18 gerd
cglib.jar 5 27.09.08 16:18 gerd
commons-beanutils.jar 5 27.09.08 16:18 gerd
commons-collections.jar 5 27.09.08 16:18 gerd
commons-httpclient.jar 5 27.09.08 16:18 gerd
commons-lang.jar 5 27.09.08 16:18 gerd
commons-logging.jar 5 27.09.08 16:18 gerd
ehcache-1.2.3.jar 5 27.09.08 16:18 gerd
ejb3-persistence.jar 5 27.09.08 16:18 gerd
gingeradminws.jar 86 03.04.10 15:11 gerd
ainaealleib.iar 86 03.04.10 15:11 aerd
```

- JBoss flat class loading allows mud, e.g. dependency cycles

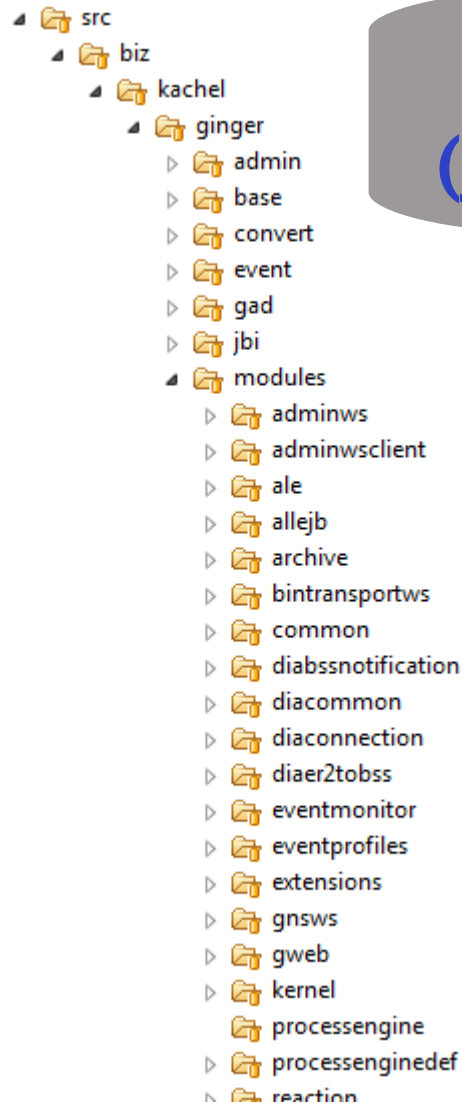
- OSGi forces good hierarchical software designs

→ re-engineering of components to hierarchical design

Bundle Design

- Old components were collections of packages
- Now, benefit from bundles:
 - Activator
 - Bundle respectively package dependencies
 - Hide internals, export packages to be used by other bundles:
 - Some adaptations required on component packages
 - Optional: add used libraries locally to bundle

Map Modules to Bundles



Modules (JBoss MBean services)

Mappings:

- Module → Bundle
- Modules: good software designs area
- Bundle design same as for components
- Add-ons required for services

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| PF | AF |

Map MBean Services to Services

- <server>
- <mbean code="biz.kachel.ginger.modules.diaconnection.gmodule.
DiamantConnection"
name="biz.kachel.ginger:service=DiamantConnection">
- <!-- configuration attributes (and methods) -->
- <attribute name="MasterDatabase">sasystem</attribute>
- ...
- <depends>biz.kachel.ginger:service=system</depends>
- </mbean>
- </server>

Map one to one to Declarative Services in OSGi

Details on Service Mapping

- MBean service description
 - component service description
- MBean attributes
 - service properties
- MBean methods
 - to be provided as service interface
- MBean dependencies
 - referenced services

Special Features on Modules

- Modules with MBeans
 - Bundles with Component Services
- GModule = Ginger Module:
 - Wrapper for dependency injection
 - JBoss MBean Services
 - Spring Beans
 - Direct GModule implementation
 - Allows set of modules to be deployed as one bundle

Module Groups

Common for porting using a dependency injection framework (DIF):

- Keep set or sub-set of modules as one bundle
- Import DIF or include DIF libraries into bundle
- Start DIF on your bundle within bundle activator
- Export packages as externally required
- Provide services as externally required

That is great for porting to keep efforts low!

Third Party Software

- ▾ jboss
 - bin
 - client
 - docs
 - lib
 - scripts
 - ▾ server
 - default
 - ▾ ginger
 - conf
 - data
 - deploy
 - lib

JEE services: find
OSGi-like
equivalents, see
below

jars: wrap into
bundles

Summary: Product Structure

- Mapping of components, modules, and jars to bundles
- Mapping of MBeans to declarative services
- Bundle benefits support a good software design

Application Software Structure

- Migration mappings are the same as for the product structure
- In addition, mapping is desired for application code
 - Provided by POJOs

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POJOs from Messaging

```
<InputGate Name=„BDProcessTrigger" Type="FILE">
  <FileInfo Format="Text">
    <Path>..\List\BaseDataImport</Path>
    <File>BaseDataStart.txt</File>
  </FileInfo>
  <PlugIns>
    <Class Name="biz.kachel.fair.BaseDataTransportPlugIns">
      <Method Name="readVTLs"/>
    </Class>
    <Class Name="biz.kachel.fair.ApplicationLog">
      <Method Name="work" Configuration="xml"/>
    </Class>
  </PlugIns>
</InputGate>
```


POJOs from Process Engine

```
<Application Id="clearSubCatalog_APP" Name="clearSubCatalog">
  <FormalParameters>
    <FormalParameter Id="CatalogSubName_FP" Mode="IN">
      <DataType>
        <BasicType Type="STRING"/>
      </DataType>
    </FormalParameter>
    ...
  </FormalParameters>
  <ExtendedAttributes>
    <ExtendedAttribute Name="Toolname"
Value="clearSubCatalog"/>
    <ExtendedAttribute Name="Tooltype"
Value="biz.kachel.fair.backbone.PlugInFurninetExport"/>
    <ExtendedAttribute Name="ExecutionFrame" Value="server"/>
  </ExtendedAttributes>
</Application>
```

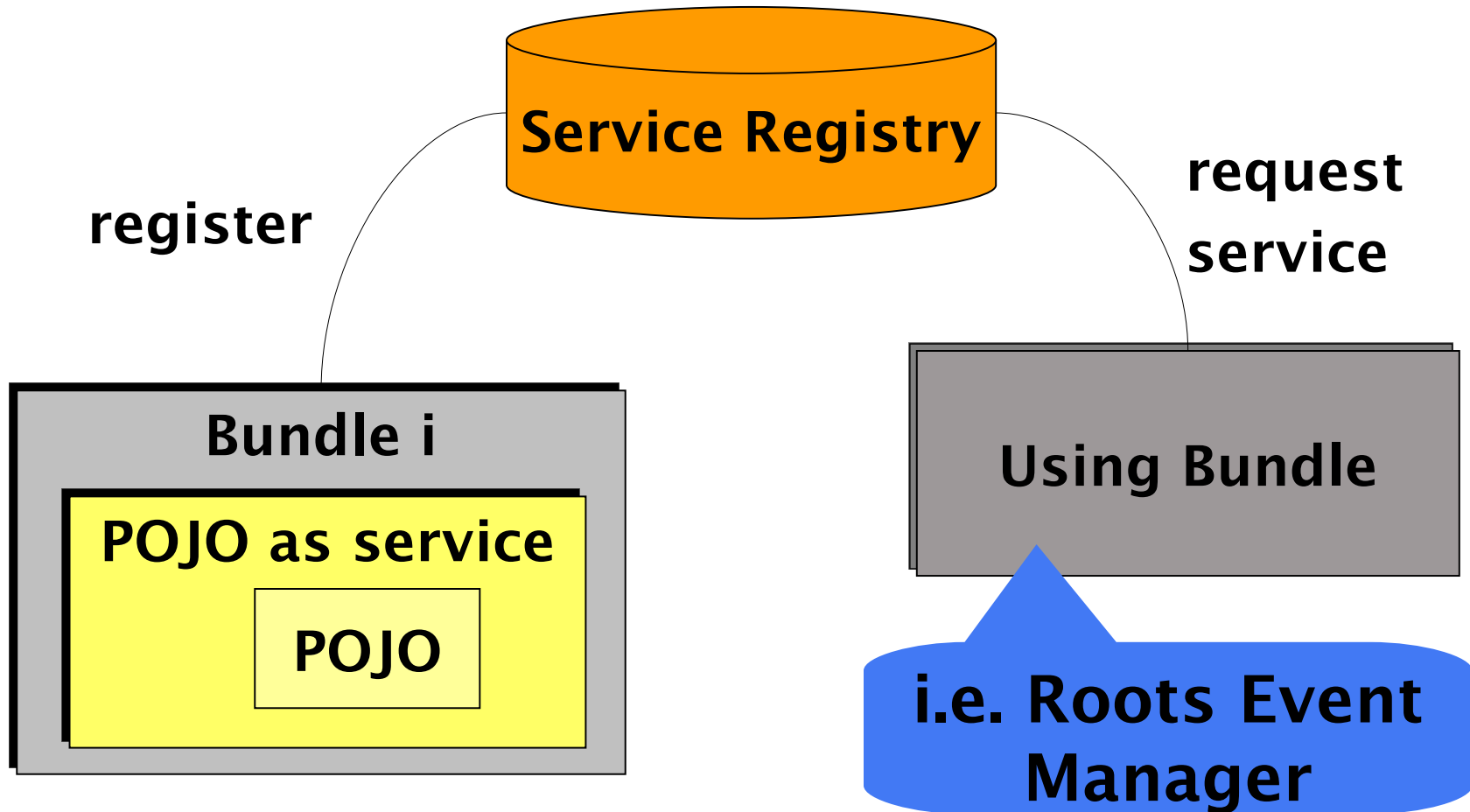
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Common POJO Mapping

- Ginger/JBoss with messaging (MSG) and process engine (PE):
 - One class loader
 - Object instances are created via JAVA reflection API
- Roots/OSGi:
 - Bundle class loading
 - Such modules as MSG and PE are provided as bundle
 - POJO is part of application bundle
 - Problem:
 - MSG or PE are not aware of application code bundles

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Common POJO Solution



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|----|----|
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Summary: Application Structure

- Mapping of POJOs
 - Provide POJO as service, service factory, or service providing POJO factory
 - Alternative:
 - fragments (limited)
 - not part of specification, e.g. Extensions

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Product Functionality

- JBoss:
 - Look for substitute
- Ginger to Roots
 - Migrated according to software structure mappings
 - Look for substitutes

JBoss Substitutes

| JBoss | Roots (OSGi, Eclipse RT) |
|------------|----------------------------------|
| Tomcat | HTTP Service, Jetty |
| WebService | Remote Services, Riena |
| Hibernate | Hibernate |
| EJB | – |
| log4j | Roots Logging, Events (DB-Track) |

GINGER Substitutes

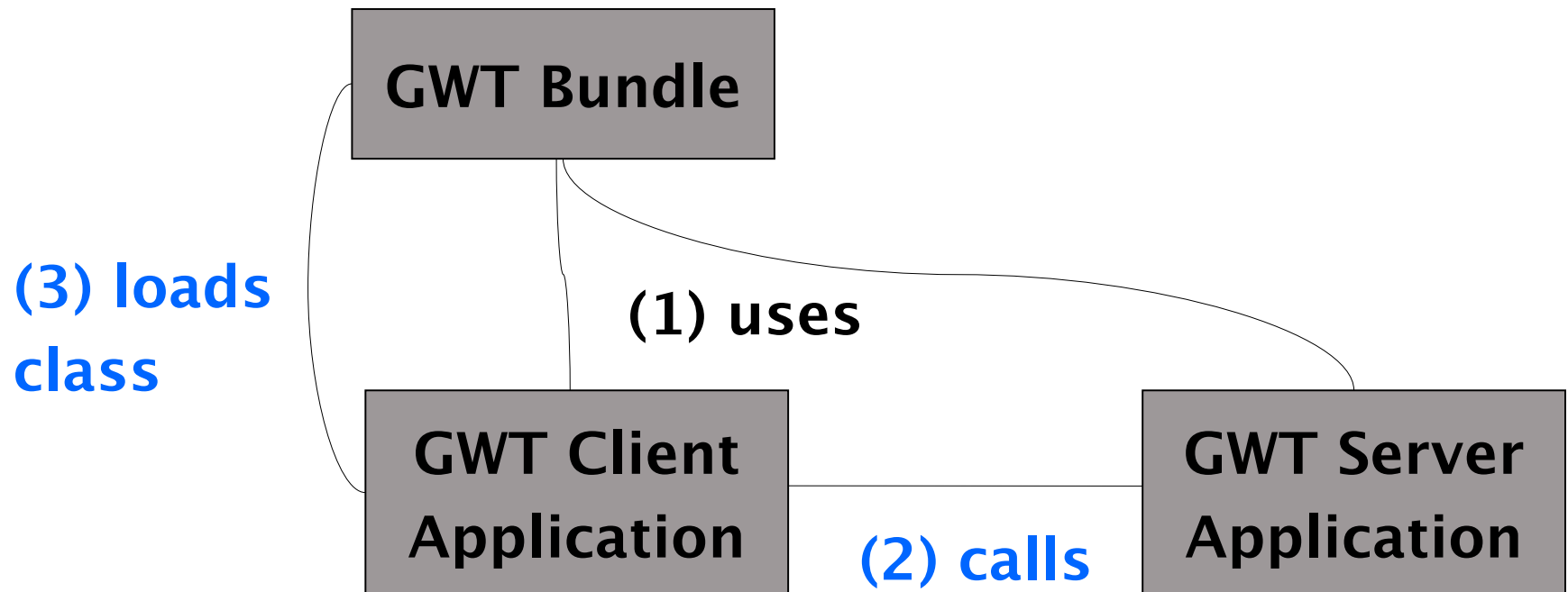
| GINGER | Roots (OSGi, Eclipse RT) |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Core | OSGi Core, Compendium partially |
| Process Engine | Event Manager |
| Messaging | Event Manager |
| Event Engine, Monitoring | Event Manager, Event Admin |
| UPnP | UPnP Device Service |
| Convert | Convert |
| GSB | Remote Services, Riena |

Port to Event Processing

- Ginger Messaging and Process Engine are substituted by Roots Event Processing (Event Manager)
- In addition: migrate messaging gates to pro-active or re-active event processors

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Google Web Toolkit Migration



Solve class loading problem!

→ Equinox Buddy Class loading

Summary: Product Functionality

- Used main JBoss and main Ginger components are directly substituted by OSGi and Eclipse RT components
- Direct porting according to migration rules
- Concept shot to event processing

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|----|----|
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Application Functionality

- Map messaging models and processes to event processes
- Map POJOs to services
- Add some glue if necessary

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|----|----|
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Lessions Learned

- Drawbacks
- Benefits
- Patterns
- Costs

Drawbacks

- Need invest in learning curve: about 4 weeks per person
- Non modularised designs are costly to migrate
- Bundles and services require implementation overhead: about 15 to 30 min per part

Benefits and Patterns

- Benefits
 - OSGi specification and implementation provides rich functionality
 - Add-ons by platform, e.g. Eclipse RT
 - Reduced software size
 - OSGi forces stronger design rules (good designs)
 - Fine grained modularisation
- Migration patterns
 - As shown above: components, modules, POJOs

Migrations Costs

- Learning curve: about 1 month per person
- GINGER core to one bundle: 1 person day (pd)
- GINGER module to bundle: about 1 pd
- Substitutes, new bundles, adaptations, test: 65 pd
- Total effort: about 110 pd (Ginger total development effort is about 2000 pd)

Wish List

- Declarative services via annotations
- Open implementation by specifications, e.g. call back or persistence layer for User Admin Service or Preferences Service
- Extend Event Admin features:
 - Open event property behaviour, e.g. event persistence
 - Open event processing modells