

Discussion Topic

On the use of Database Technology in Embedded Control Programs

Moderator: Grant Weddell

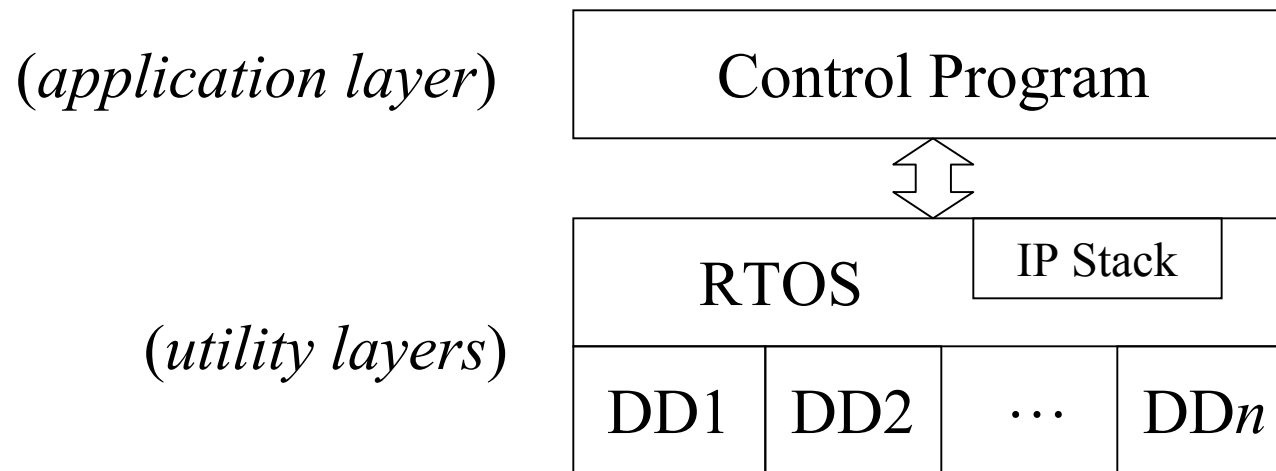
Embedded Control Program (ECP)

E.g.: *The software part of an intelligent device.*

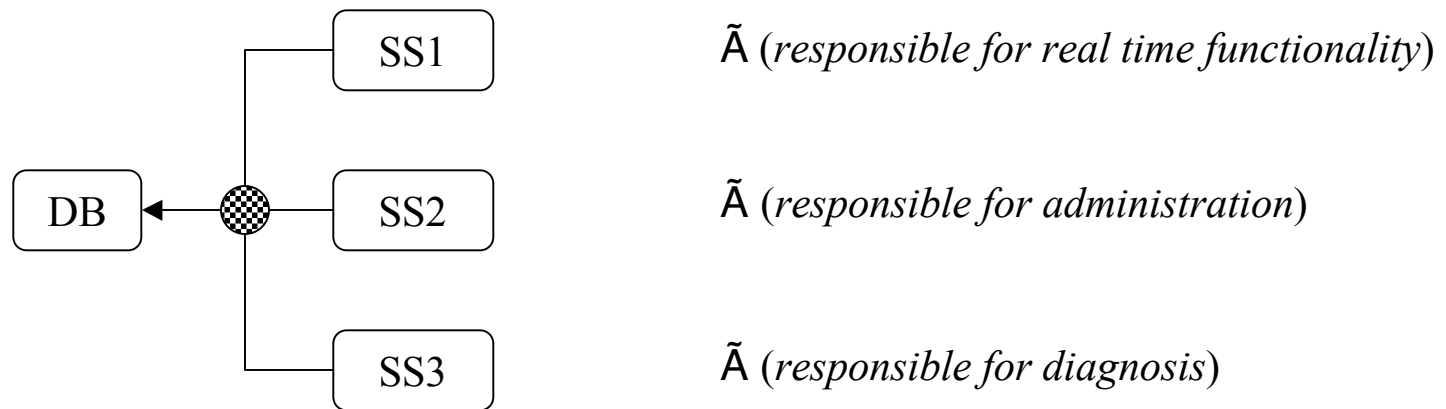
An Intelligent Device



Software Components



Reference Architecture



Definition: *Any software system for which there is utility in adopting a repository style of architecture.*

 (unspecified)

Another Phone



And Another



Software Components

(application layer)

Control Program



(utility layers)

RTOS

Proprietary

DD1

DD2

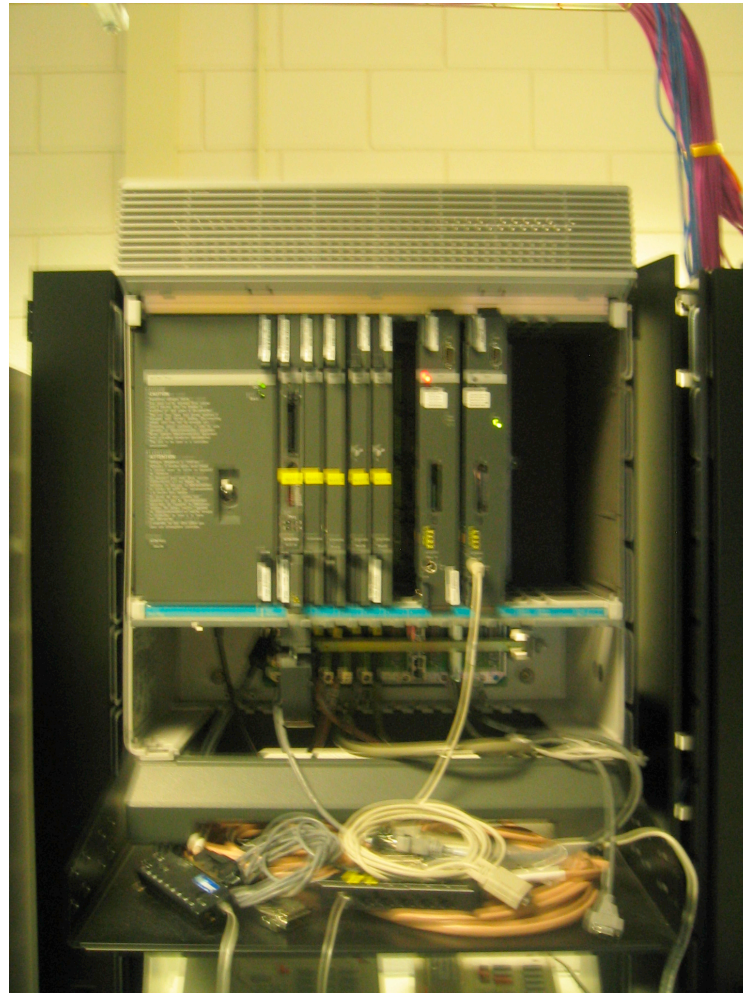
...

DD n

And Another



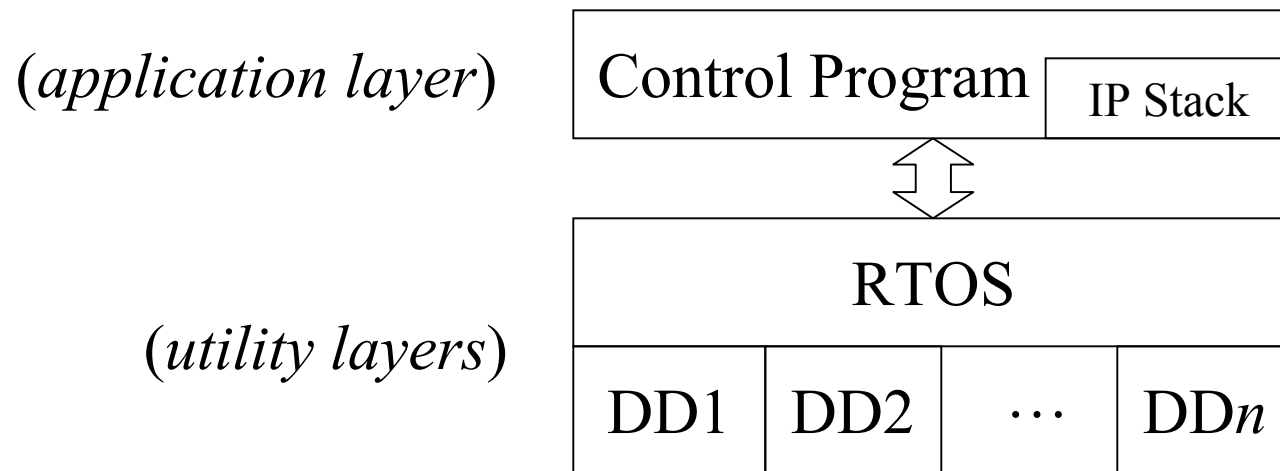
A Telephone Switch



Data Switch



Software Components



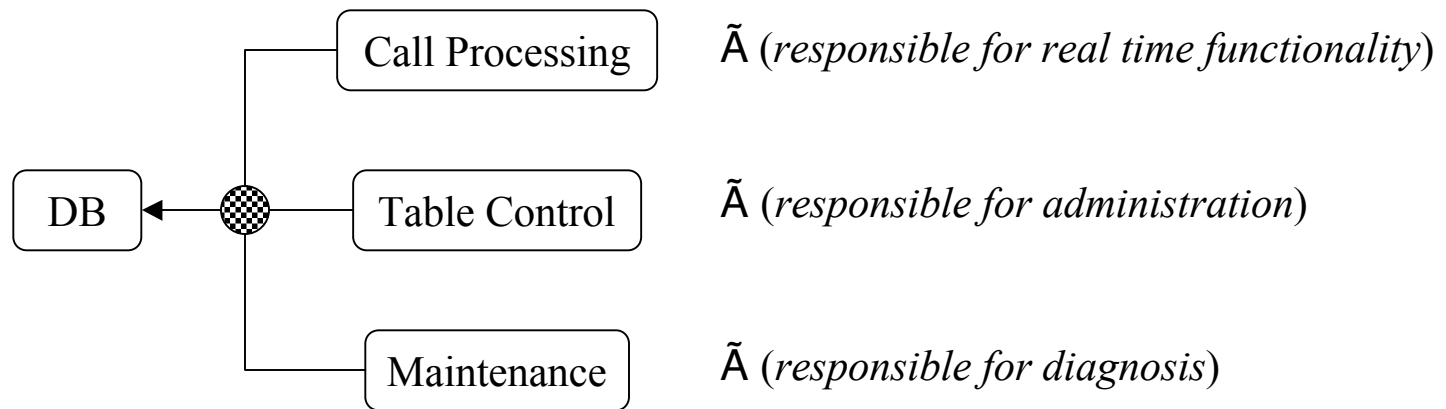
Vending Machine



Automated Banking Machine



ECP for a Telephone Switch

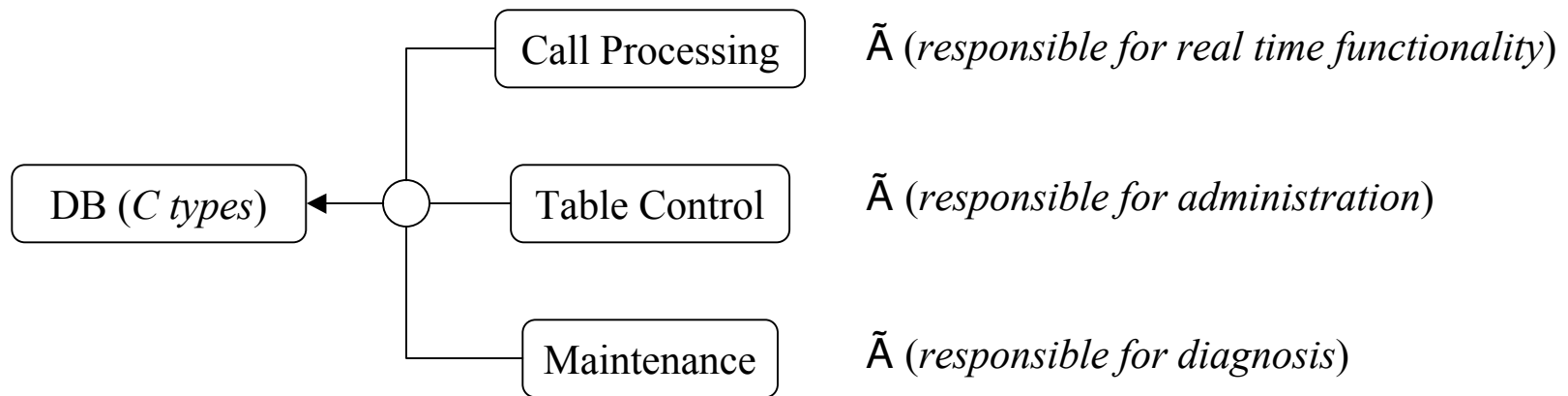


Contents of DB

- Information about subscribers.
- Network status.
- Call state data.
- Diagnostic information.

 (*unspecified*)

Effect of Performance Requirements

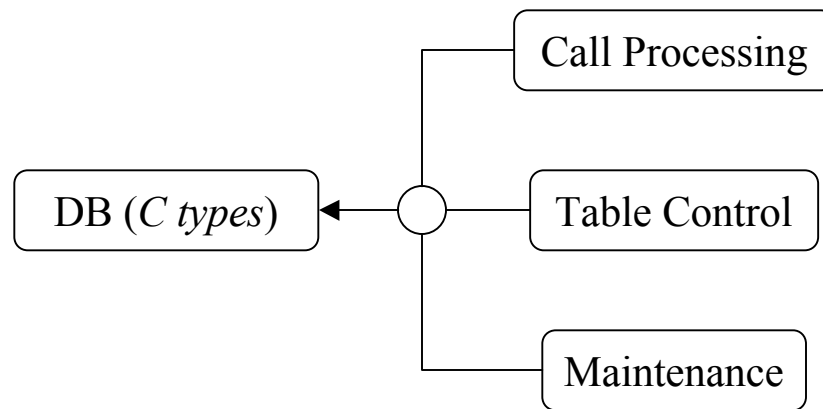


Contents of DB

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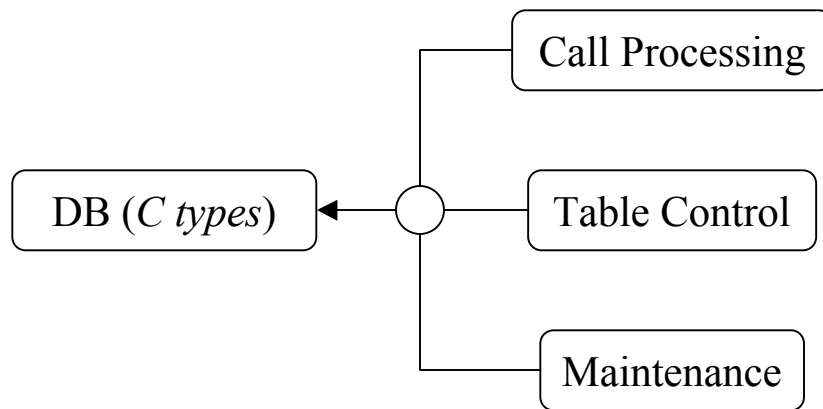
○ API

Data Access



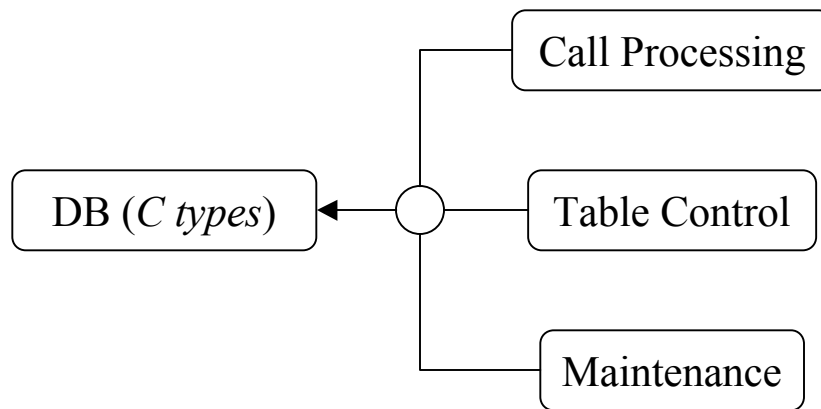
- Access a record field.
- Access *i*th entry of an array.

Data Revision



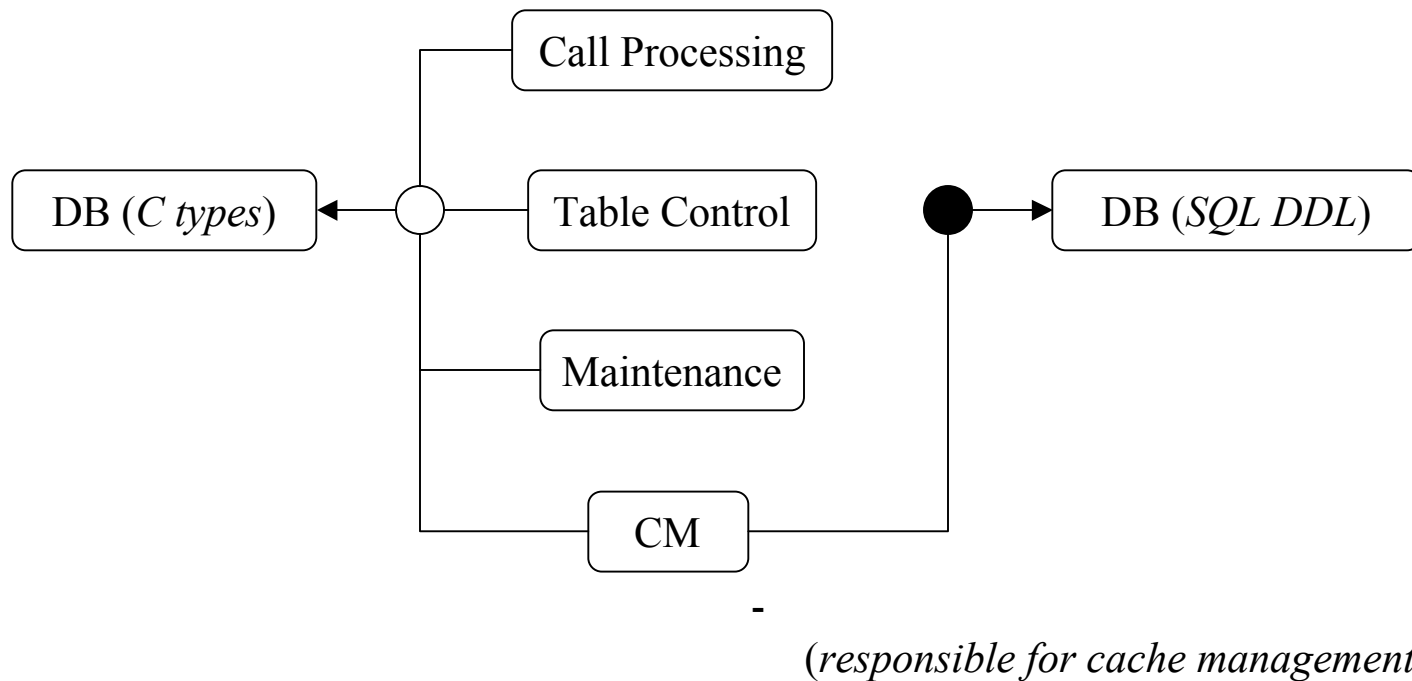
- Update a record field.
- Update *i*th entry of an array.
- Allocate space for a record.
- Free space for a record.

Transaction Management



- Successful test and set
(*a record field is zero;
set the field to one*).
- Unsuccessful test and set
(*a record field is non-zero*).

Integrating Telephone Systems



○ API

● SQL DML

Data Access

API

- Access a record field.
- Access *i*th entry of an array.

SQL DML

- Access a tuple attribute value.
- Open an iterator
(*defined by a static SQL query*).
- Succeed in accessing an iterator.
- Fail in accessing an iterator.
- Increment an iterator.
- Close an iterator.

Data Revision

API

- Update a record field.
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SQL DML

- Update a tuple attribute value.
- Create a new tuple.
- Delete an existing tuple.

Transaction Management

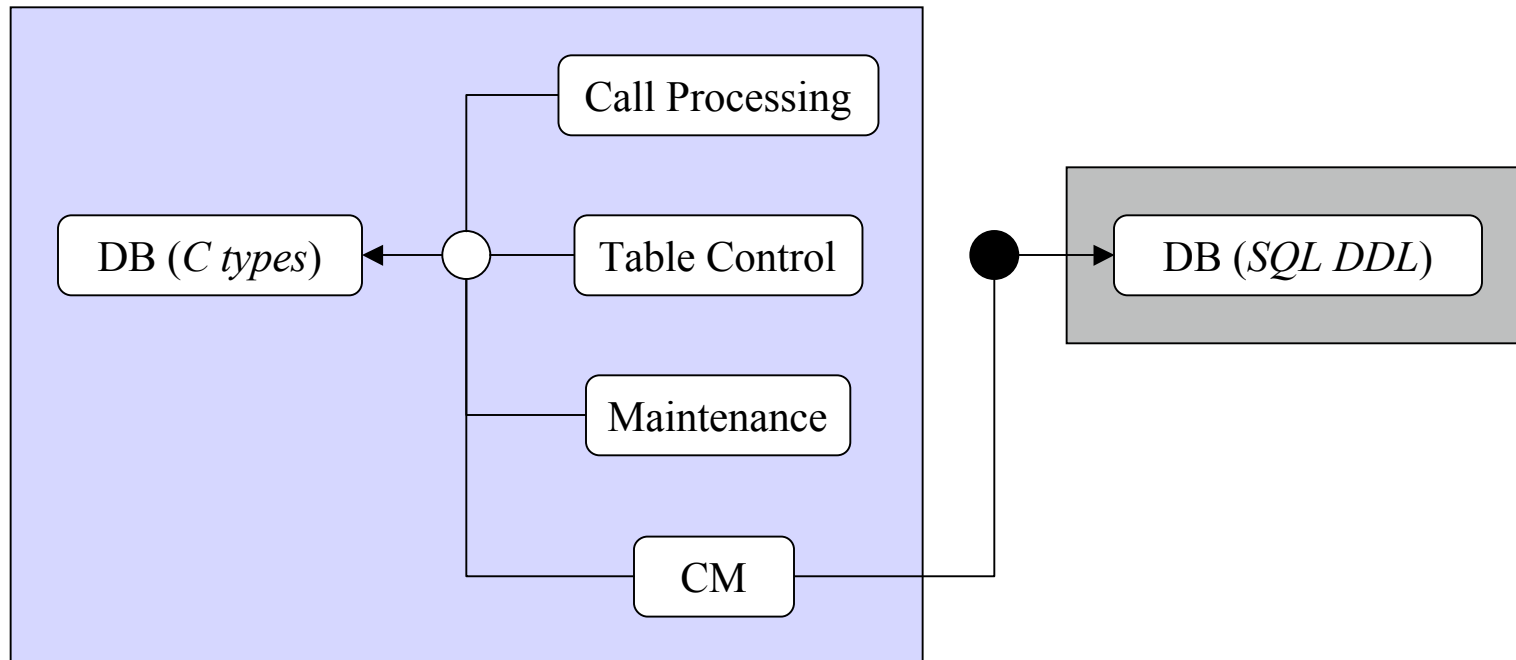
API

- Successful test and set
(*a record field is zero; set the field to one*).
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SQL DML

- Connect
- Begin transaction.
- Commit transaction.
- Abort transaction.
- Disconnect

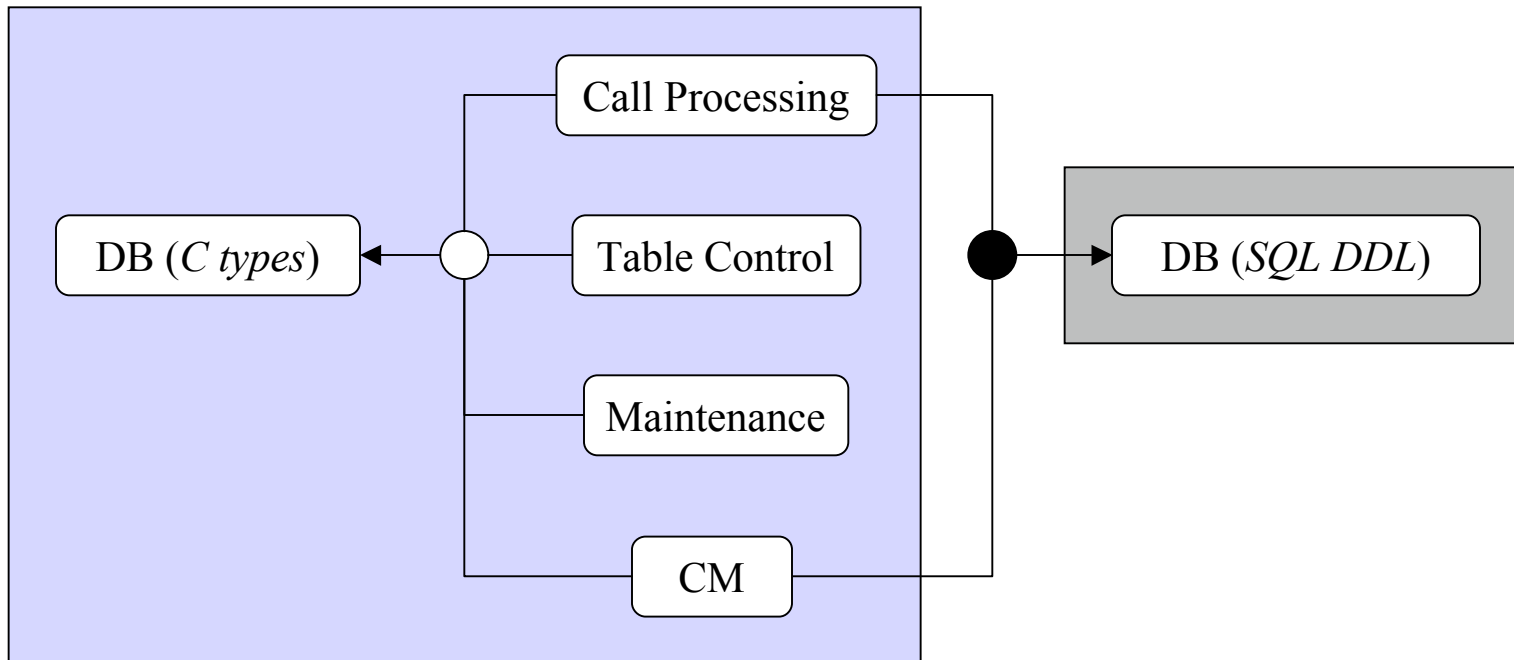
Packaging



○ API

● SQL DML □ (part of load) □ (independent system)

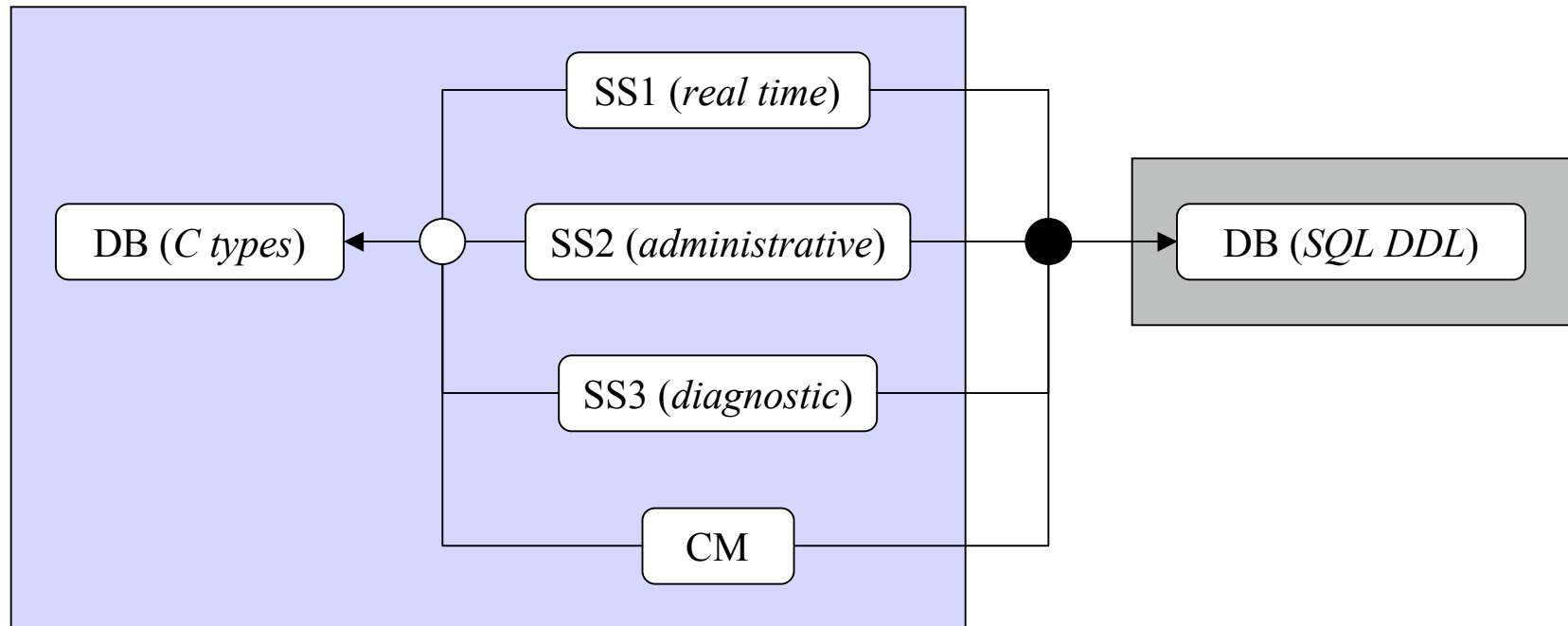
Advanced Intelligent Networks



○ API

● SQL DML □ (part of load) □ (independent system)

ECP: Generic Runtime Architecture



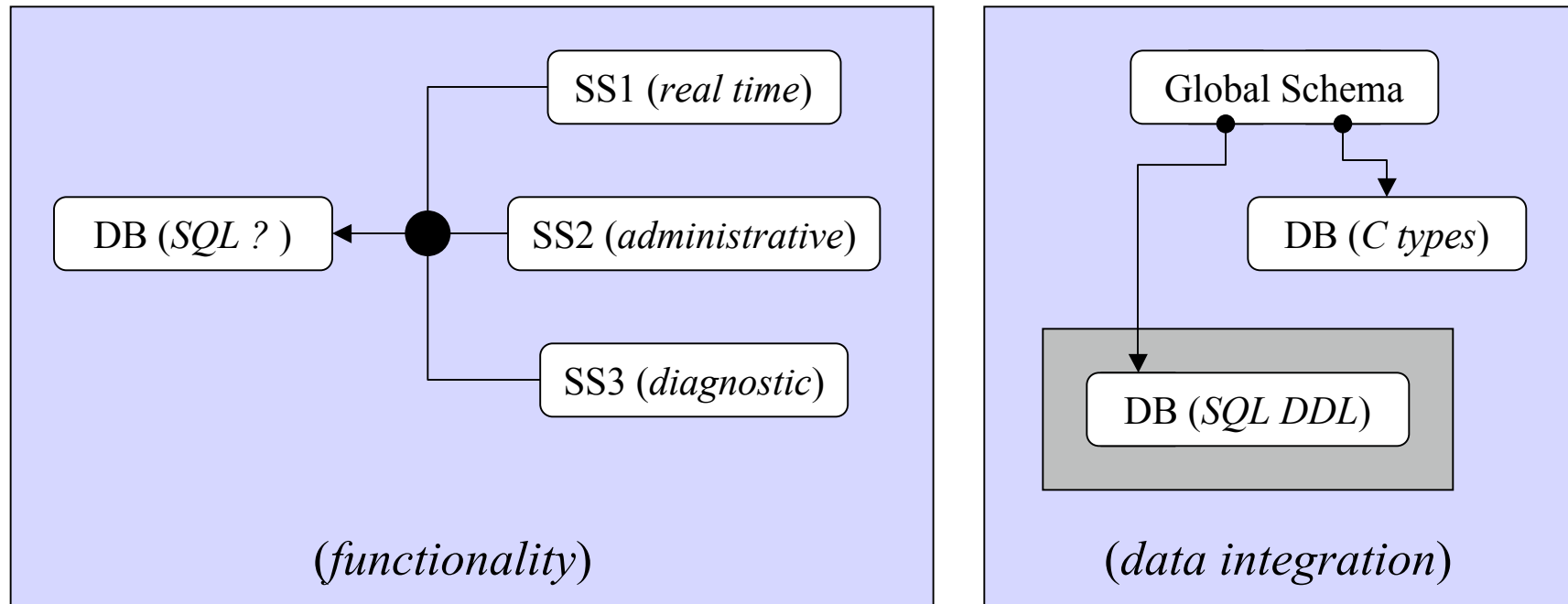
○ API

● SQL DML

□ (part of load)

■ (independent system)

ECP: Desired Compile Time Architecture



○ API

● SQL DML

□ (part of load)

■ (independent system)

●→ (integration schema)

SQL DML

Transaction Management

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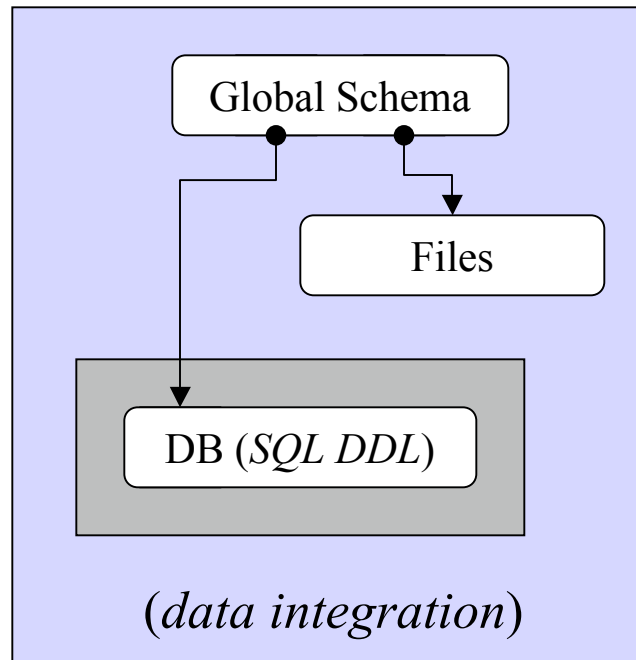
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Data Revision

- Update a tuple attribute value.
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Integration in Heavyweight DB Engines



○ API

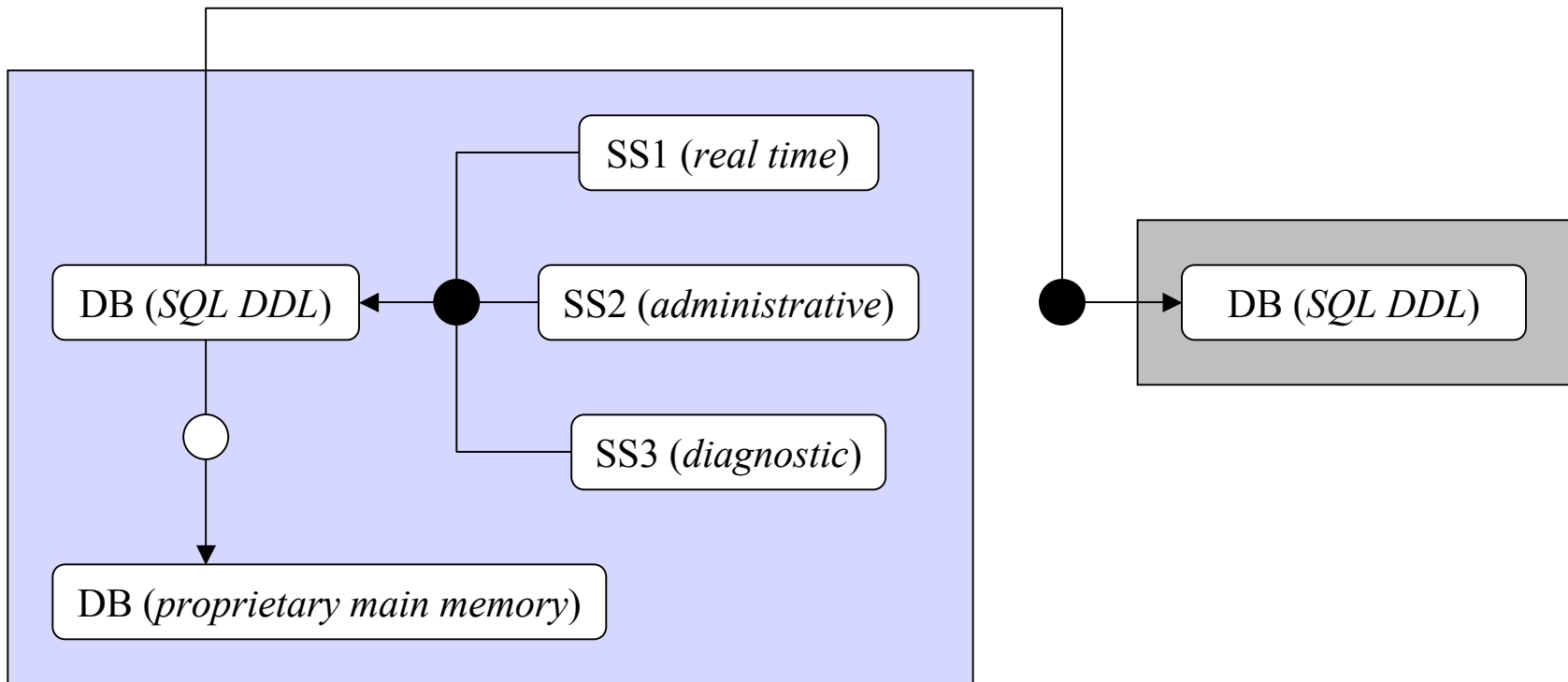
● SQL DML

□ (part of load)

■ (independent system)

●→ (integration schema)

Lightweight Engines: Sybase Ultralight



SQL DML

Transaction Management

- Connect
- Begin transaction.
- Commit transaction.
- Abort transaction.
- Disconnect

Special Data Revision

- Synchronize

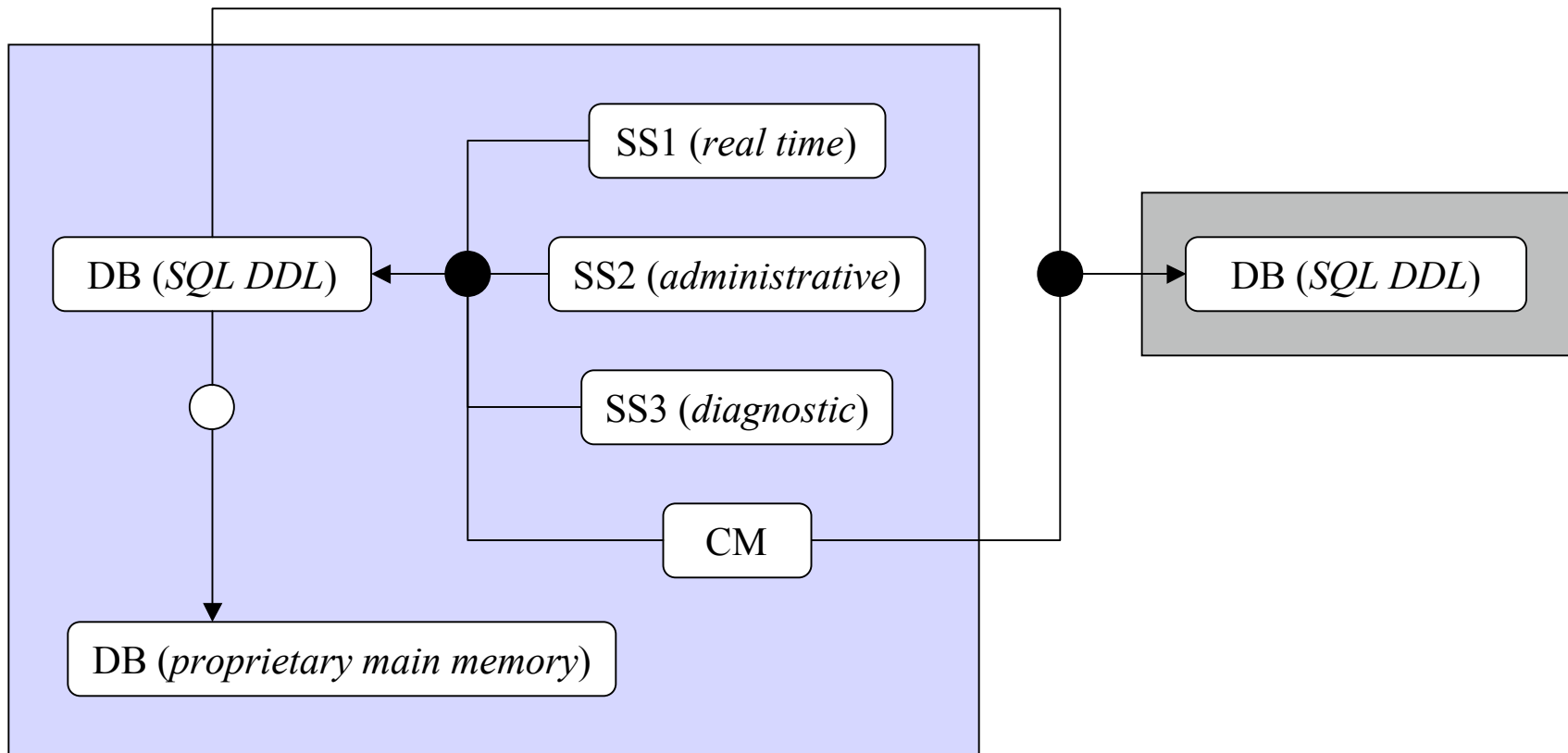
Data Access

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Data Revision

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Main Memory Databases: TimesTen



○ API

● SQL DML

□ (part of load)

■ (independent system)

●→ (integration schema)

Additional Operations Supported

Conceptual Data Revision

- Create table.
- Delete table.
- Create view.
- Delete view.

Physical Design

- Create index.
- Delete index.

Data Access

- Open an iterator
(*defined by a SQL query string*).

A Performance Benchmark

The LINUX kernel.

Real time subsystem: `fork`, `malloc`, `open`, `connect`, ...

Administrative subsystem: `ps`, `ls`, ...

Competition: What expert C programmers can do in coding to the generic runtime architecture.

Issues in Query Optimization

- Pointers and arrays.
- Pipelined query plans.
- Code inlining.
- Semantic query optimization.
- Timing.
- Safety.

Issues in Concurrency Control

- Deadlock free protocols.
- Concurrency requirements.

Issues in Backup and Recovery

- Reliable main memory.
- Backup and recovery requirements.
- Compensating transactions.
- User specified recovery.

Issues in Physical Database Design

- Tuple identification.
- Field layout.
- Indexing: arrays, stacks, heaps, ...[†]

[†]See, e.g., Knuth, volume 3.

Final Reflections

What is the main memory data?

- Anything in heap memory.
- Anything on execution stacks?
- The application code?

