

LEONARDI

Model Driven Development
for Composing Business Applications

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W4 : Presentation

- **W4 : Software Editor created in 1996**
 - SME based in Paris, France
 - 60 persons
- **Specialized in:**
 - Workflow solutions
 - MDD, J2EE, Web technologies
 - GUIs : **LEONARDI (since 2001)**
 - Business Applications
- **Customers**
 - Fortune 100 Companies
 - Software Editors
 - Integrators

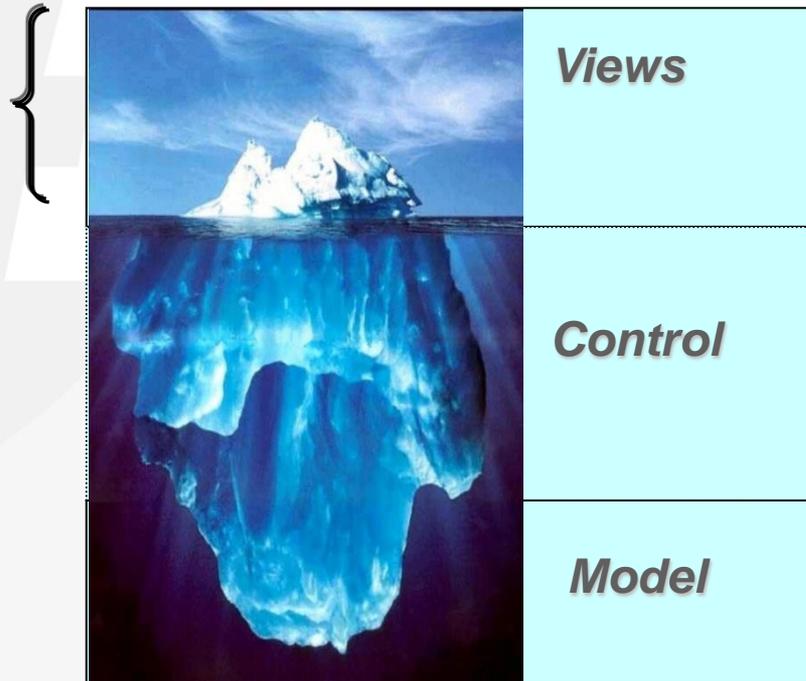
LEONARDI Scope

Application

Visible Part

Screens : RIAs,
Fat clients,
Eclipse...

- Login
- Tables
- Forms
- Dashboards
- Stats
- Maps
- Gantt
- ...



Hidden Part

- Connection to the IS
- Navigation tree
- Screen feed
- User profiles
- Integration with underlying technologies
- Editing rules
- Consistency controls
- ...

Issues to solve

➤ **For end users, the GUI is the application!**

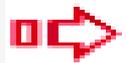
High Expectations: Look & Feel, robustness, user-friendliness, user experience...

➤ **Implementing a GUI remains complex**

- ✓ Technologies keep changing
- ✓ Strong constraints : take into account legacy
- ✓ Complex user driven combinations need to be anticipated

➤ **Delivering a GUI is expensive**

50% of code in development is related to the GUI (Source: IEEC)



Consequence :

In traditional approaches, 80% of the time is dedicated to the infrastructure of the application and 20% only to its business dimension (Source: IDC)

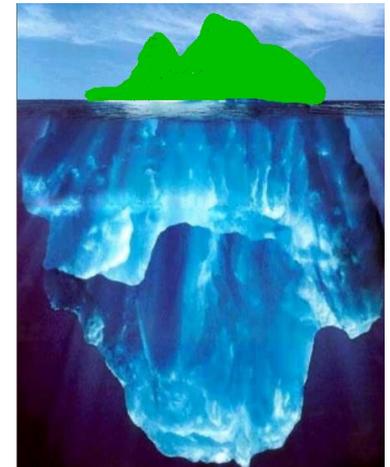
(1) Programming

➤ **Code : Views, Controls, Model**

- ▣ A programming language
- ▣ A component library
- **Pros** : Custom-built GUI
- **Cons** : Work load, maintenance, extensibility...

➤ **Graphical Builders : Drag & Drop Screen Design**

- **Pros** : Quick programming of the presentation layer
- **Cons** : Only addresses the presentation layer (views)



Alternatives

(2) 4GLs

MS Access, PowerBuilder, Clarion, 4Js...

Programming languages that elevate the abstraction level



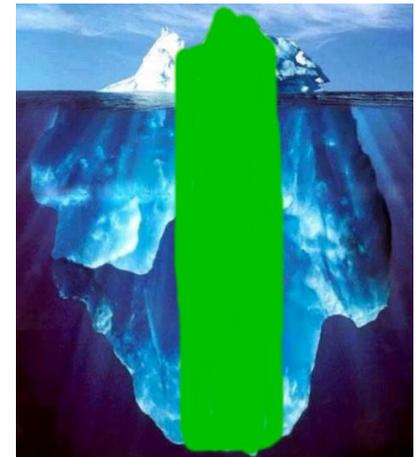
Pros:

- Accelerates development
- Requires less technical skills
- Addresses the problem from end to end



Cons:

- Technical Limitations : OK for management software
- Lacks openness : legacy technologies



Alternatives

(3) MDA Solutions

AndroMDA, MTF, Acceleo, MIA Generation, MDWorkbench...

- Model Transformations, PIMs, PSMs,
- Able to generate code, including for GUIs
- Use of IDEs

- **Pros :**
 - Decoupling business / technology
 - Automation of some tasks
 - Improvement of the SDLC

- **Cons :**
 - Only addresses the static part of GUIs
 - Some work at the IDE level
 - Generated code must evolve as the model evolves



W4's Solution : LEONARDI

A Model-Driven framework for composing Business Applications

- The developer focuses on the data and the business rules
- LEONARDI is in charge of the technical infrastructure



Main characteristics of LEONARDI:

(1) Driven by the business model

- More abstraction
- Decoupling between technology / business
- less code = less bugs = less maintenance
- Agility

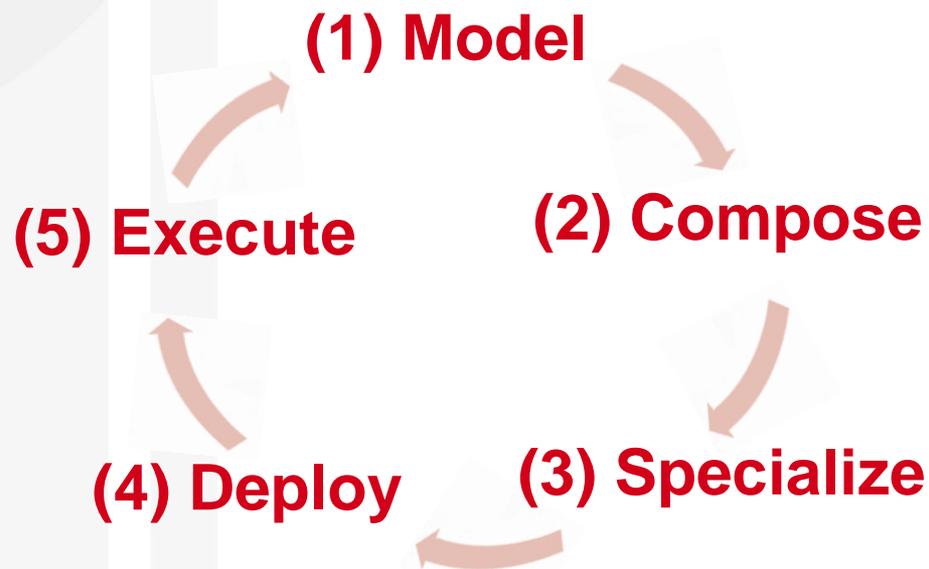
(2) Executed by an application engine

- On-the-fly execution of the model
- No code generation
- Multiple and heterogeneous environments:
 - Presentation layers: Swing, DHTML/Ajax, Eclipse plugins
 - Data sources: DBMS, LDAP, XML, Corba, ECM...

How does it work?

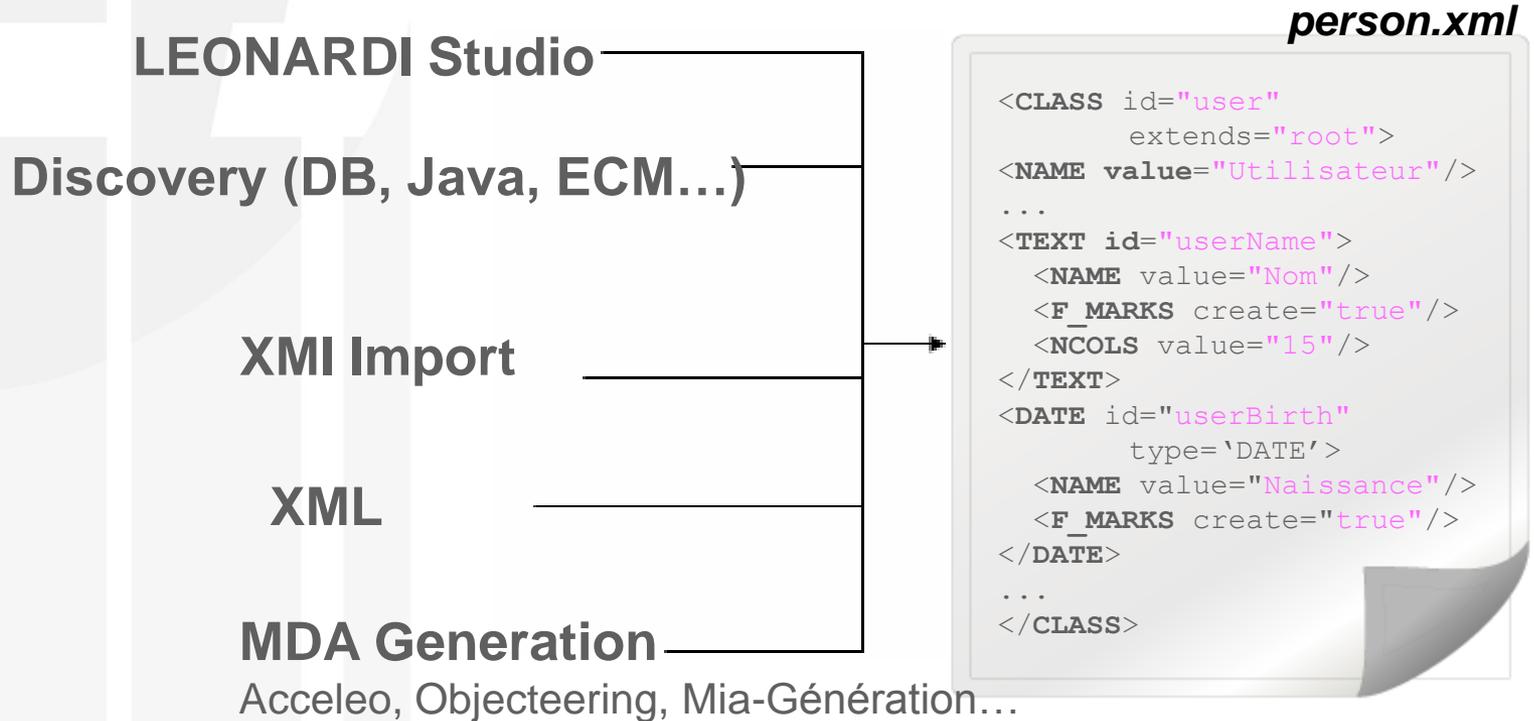
Rely on the logical (business) model to provide an ***operational*** and ***tunable*** end-to-end service.

Agile iteration cycles :



How does it work?

Model: Describe the structure of the application data (business model)



How does it work?

Compose: Build the navigation tree by configuring standard views with business model data

Action

- o Login
- o Tree
- o Table
- o Gantt
- o Map
- o Statistics
- o Compounding
- o Tabs
- o Editing
- o Prints
- o Exports
- o User Input ...

+ Parameters

- o Class+
- o Field*
- o Filter* ...

appli.xml

```
<ACTION_REF idref="_table"  
class="user">
```

Execution :

| Identifiant | Nom | Type | Téléphone |
|-------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| aba | Anthony BANNIER | utilisateur | |
| admin | Administrateur | administrateur | |
| ame | Aurélie MERLIN | administrateur | 01 64 53 18 26 |
| ban | Bruno ANGIOLETTI | administrateur | 01 64 53 18 25 |
| cma | Claire MACQUART | ancien | |
| dbo | Denis BOIRON | ancien | 01 64 53 18 29 |
| ear | Elodie ARNOULD | utilisateur | |
| emo | Eric MOUNHEM | utilisateur | |
| gta | Gilles TACHON | administrateur | 01 64 53 18 23 |
| ipanema | IPANEMA | utilisateur | |
| idc | Jérôme DA COSTA | ancien | |

How does it work?

Specialize: Add dynamic behaviors in Java



Reservation.xml

```
<CLASS id="reservation"
  template="_create"
  behavior="hotel.behavior.ReservationClassBehavior">
```

ReservationClassBehavior.xml

```
public class ReservationClassBehavior extends LyClassBehavior
{
    /**
     * This method updates the reservation number of days on the reservation form, depending on
     * check in and check out dates.
     *
     * @param set the current LySetController instance
     * @param newValue field info value change to propagate. If the field is the reservation check
     * in or check out, then tries to update the reservation number of days.
     */
    public void propagate(LySetController set, LyFieldInfoValue newValue)
    {
        LyFieldInfo fieldInfo = newValue.getFieldInfo();

        // Update the number of days with check in and check out dates
        if (("reservation_check_in".equals(fieldInfo.getId())
            || "reservation_check_out".equals(fieldInfo.getId())))
        {
            LyDateValue checkIn = (LyDateValue)set.getFieldValue("reservation_check_in");
            LyDateValue checkOut = (LyDateValue)set.getFieldValue("reservation_check_out");
            Long checkInTime = checkIn.getLongValue();
            Long checkOutTime = checkOut.getLongValue();
            int nbDaysTime = -1;

            if ((checkInTime != null) && (checkOutTime != null))
                nbDaysTime = (int)((checkOutTime.longValue() - checkInTime.longValue())
                    / (24 * 3600 * 1000));

            LyApplication app = set.getApplication();
            LyFieldInfo daysField = (LyFieldInfo)app.getInfo("reservation_days");

            if (nbDaysTime > 0)
                set.setFieldValue(daysField, new Integer(nbDaysTime));
            else
                set.setFieldValue(daysField, null);
        }

        super.propagate(set, newValue);
    } // end method propagate
} // end class ReservationClassBehavior
```

How does it work?

Deploy and Execute

➤ **Deploy**

Multi-target presentation layers

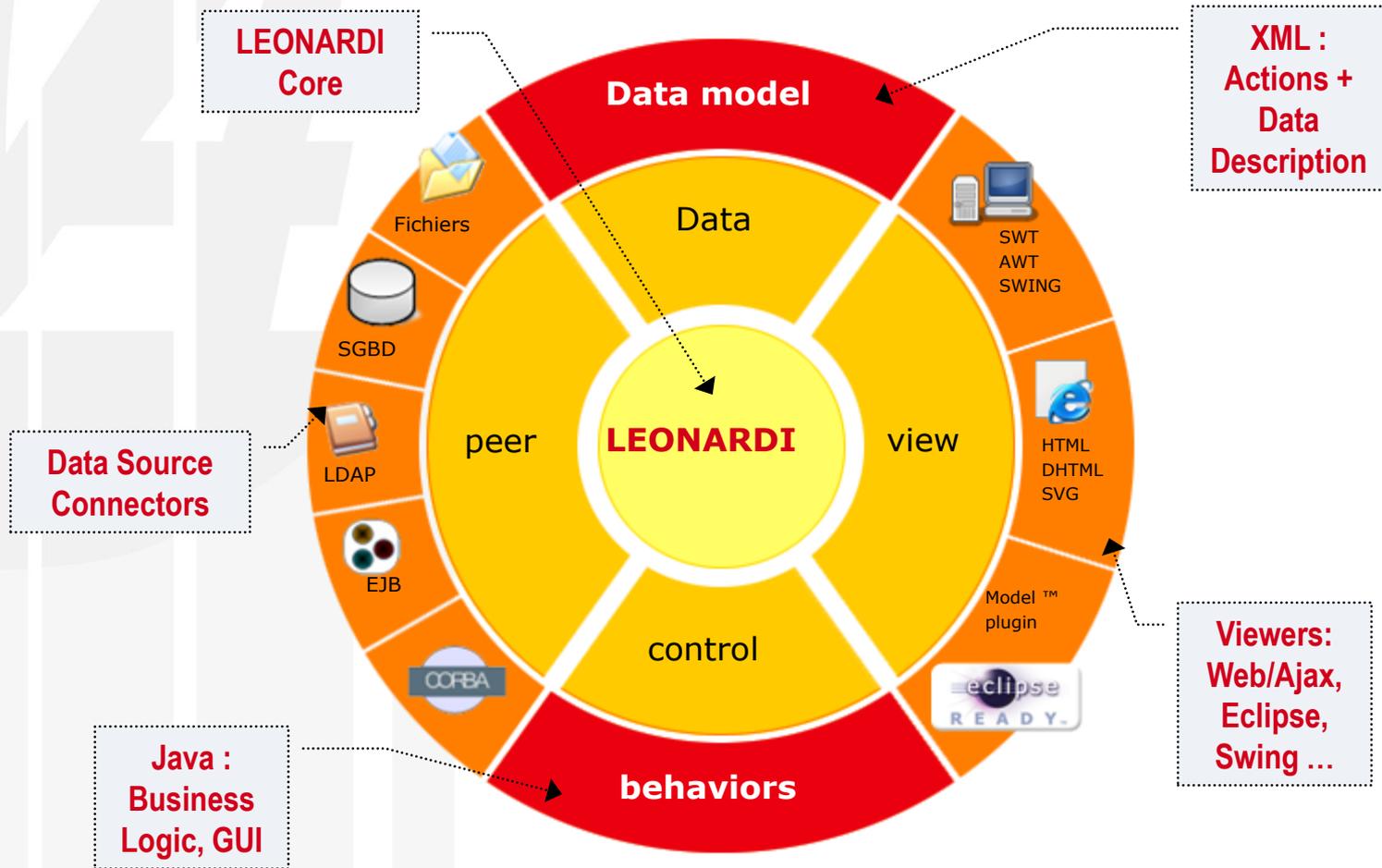
- Swing, SWT, Eclipse, DHTML/Ajax...
- Specific skins

➤ **Execute**

- Multi-data source : RDBMS, ECM, LDAP, Files (csv, xml, ...),
- On-the-fly building of screens
- Editing controls
- On-demand data loading
- Automatic updates of views ...

Multi-OS: 100% Java Windows, UNIX, Linux, Mac...

Architecture



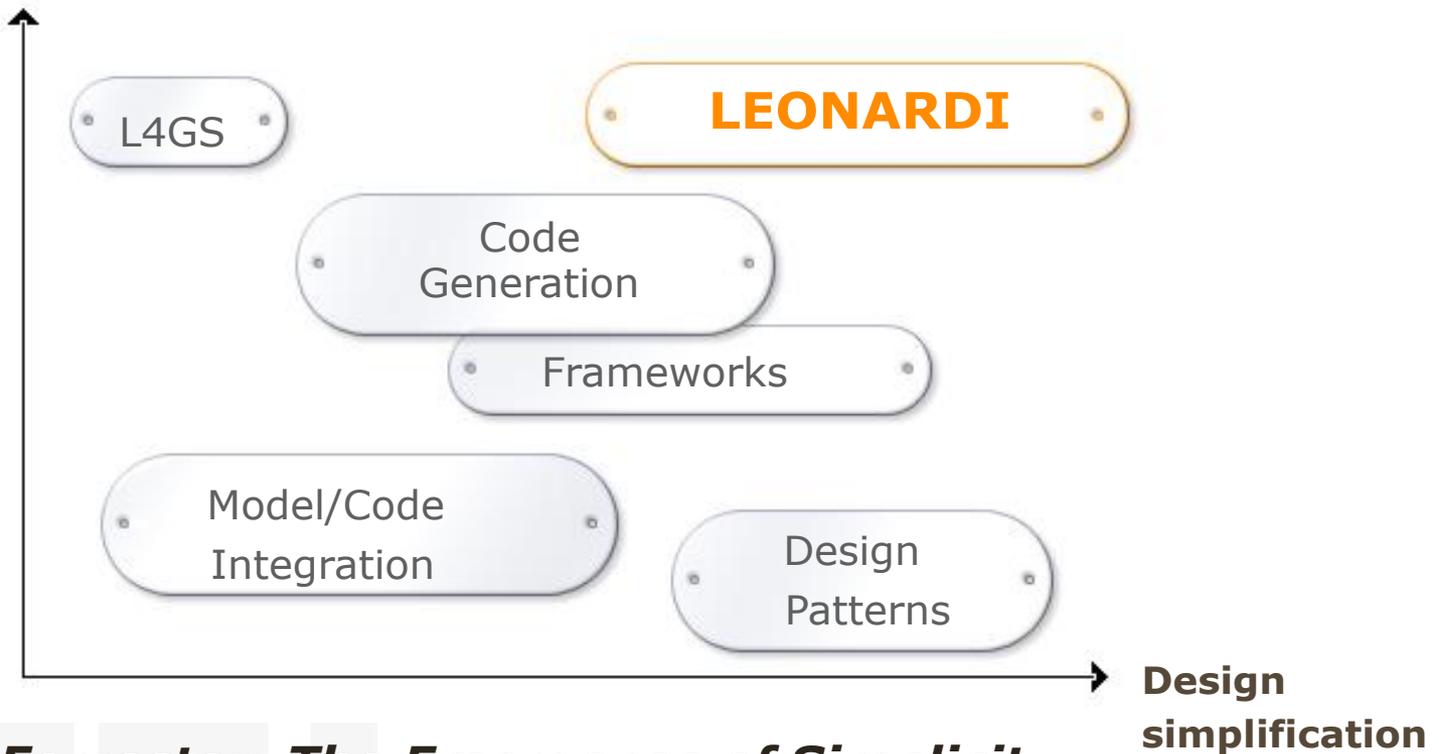
Optimized ROI: Lower costs and time to market

- ✓ Simplification: no need to be a technical expert
- ✓ Portability, openness
- ✓ Robustness, quality
- ✓ Reusability
- ✓ Agility
- ✓ Durability: Technically and functionally
 - Business and technology loosely coupled
 - When the model changes, the application changes!
- ✓ Features
 - Database discovery, XMI Import
 - Multi-language
 - Customization
 - ...

Benefits

LEONARDI : *GUIs Made Simple*

Technical simplification



Forrester: The Emergence of Simplicity

Application types

Technical applications with:

- ✓ Complex information systems: lots of data to address, lots of screens to display
- ✓ Low time to market

- ERPs
- SCM
- CRM
- Supervision
- Configuration
- Commanding systems
- Stock Management
- ...

Customers and typical needs

- **Integrators:** Project leaders, CTO, project managers
 - Off-the-shelf solutions, in-house development
 - Prototypes
 - Internal Tools
- **Software editors:** CTO, project managers
Migration, modernization of existing software packages
- **Final users:**
 - RAD projects with integration of legacy products such as SAP, Siebel...
 - Modernization of client-server applications written with L4Gs : Forms, PowerBuilder, Windev, Uniface...
 - Migration of legacy, complex systems
 - Specific turn-key solutions

Typical LEONARDI implementations:

- **Software Factories** for Fortune 100 companies, in the IT department, to fulfill internal needs such as stock management, ERP, CRM, HR...
- **VAR Solutions** for specialized editors who can then focus on their added value in their own business: Network supervision, ECM, SCM...
- **Project mode** for editors and integrators, to accelerate the implementation of strategic projects: monitoring, reporting...

Customers

LEONARDI: Pragmatic MBUI with concrete market results

