

# A Non-Intrusive Approach to Extend Microservice Modeling Languages with Architecture Pattern Support

Third International Conference on Microservices (Microservices 2020)

---

**Florian Rademacher** <sup>1</sup>

`florian.rademacher@fh-dortmund.de`

September 8–10, 2020

<sup>1</sup>University of Applied Sciences and Arts Dortmund, IDiAL Institute

# Table of Contents

Introduction

Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

Future Work

Introduction

Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

Future Work

- Introduction
  - Microservice Architecture (MSA) introduces challenges in the **design, implementation, and operation** of an application [10, 11, 3]
    - Design: e.g., efficient service tailoring
    - Implementation: e.g., manage technology heterogeneity
    - Operation: e.g., maintain deployment and operation infrastructure

## Line of Research

Investigate **architecture modeling languages** [9] to support in coping with challenges.

- Introduction
  - Microservice Architecture (MSA) introduces challenges in the **design, implementation, and operation** of an application [10, 11, 3]
    - Design: e.g., efficient service tailoring
    - Implementation: e.g., manage technology heterogeneity
    - Operation: e.g., maintain deployment and operation infrastructure

## Line of Research

Investigate **architecture modeling languages** [9] to support in coping with challenges.

- Development of LEMMA<sup>1</sup>

## Goals

🚩 Mitigate complexity of MSA engineering for stakeholder groups

🚩 Balance conceptual design and technology-specific implementation

🚩 Automate architecting and implementation tasks

## Solution Building Blocks

💡 Provide modeling languages that are aligned to stakeholder concerns

💡 Provide selective level of technology abstraction

💡 Provide framework for model processor implementation

---

<sup>1</sup>Language Ecosystem for Modeling Microservice Architecture (<https://fh.do/lemma>)

- Development of LEMMA<sup>1</sup>

## Goals

🚩 Mitigate complexity of MSA engineering for stakeholder groups

🚩 Balance conceptual design and technology-specific implementation

🚩 Automate architecting and implementation tasks

## Solution Building Blocks

💡 Provide modeling languages that are aligned to stakeholder concerns

💡 Provide selective level of technology abstraction

💡 Provide framework for model processor implementation

---

<sup>1</sup>Language Ecosystem for Modeling Microservice Architecture (<https://fh.do/lemma>)

- Development of LEMMA<sup>1</sup>

## Goals

🚩 Mitigate complexity of MSA engineering for stakeholder groups

🚩 Balance conceptual design and technology-specific implementation

🚩 Automate architecting and implementation tasks

## Solution Building Blocks

💡 Provide modeling languages that are aligned to stakeholder concerns

💡 Provide selective level of technology abstraction

💡 Provide framework for model processor implementation

---

<sup>1</sup>Language Ecosystem for Modeling Microservice Architecture (<https://fh.do/lemma>)



- Development of LEMMA<sup>1</sup>

## Goals

🚩 Mitigate complexity of MSA engineering for stakeholder groups

🚩 Balance conceptual design and technology-specific implementation

🚩 Automate architecting and implementation tasks

## Solution Building Blocks

💡 Provide modeling languages that are aligned to stakeholder concerns

💡 Provide selective level of technology abstraction

💡 Provide framework for model processor implementation

---

<sup>1</sup>Language Ecosystem for Modeling Microservice Architecture (<https://fh.do/lemma>)

- Development of LEMMA<sup>1</sup>

## Goals

🚩 Mitigate complexity of MSA engineering for stakeholder groups

🚩 Balance conceptual design and technology-specific implementation

🚩 Automate architecting and implementation tasks

## Solution Building Blocks

💡 Provide modeling languages that are aligned to stakeholder concerns

💡 Provide selective level of technology abstraction

💡 Provide framework for model processor implementation

---

<sup>1</sup>Language Ecosystem for Modeling Microservice Architecture (<https://fh.do/lemma>)

- Development of LEMMA<sup>1</sup>

## Goals

🚩 Mitigate complexity of MSA engineering for stakeholder groups

🚩 Balance conceptual design and technology-specific implementation

🚩 Automate architecting and implementation tasks

## Solution Building Blocks

💡 Provide modeling languages that are aligned to stakeholder concerns

💡 Provide selective level of technology abstraction

💡 Provide framework for model processor implementation

---

<sup>1</sup>Language Ecosystem for Modeling Microservice Architecture (<https://fh.do/lemma>)

- Development of LEMMA<sup>1</sup>

## Goals

🚩 Mitigate complexity of MSA engineering for stakeholder groups

🚩 Balance conceptual design and technology-specific implementation

🚩 Automate architecting and implementation tasks

## Solution Building Blocks

💡 Provide modeling languages that are aligned to stakeholder concerns

💡 Provide selective level of technology abstraction

💡 Provide framework for model processor implementation

---

<sup>1</sup>Language Ecosystem for Modeling Microservice Architecture (<https://fh.do/lemma>)

- LEMMA Model Examples

## Domain Model

```
1 // Model file: Banking.data
2 context Banking {
3   structure Account<entity> {
4     long id<identifier>,
5     Person owner,
6     double balance
7   }
8
9   structure Person {
10    string firstname,
11    string lastname,
12    date birthday
13  }
14 }
```

## Service Model

```
1 // Model file: Banking.services
2 import datatypes from "Banking.data" as Domain
3 functional microservice org.example.BankingService {
4   interface AccountManagement {
5     ---
6     API endpoint for creating a new account
7     @required account The new account
8     ---
9     createAccount (
10      sync in account : Domain::Banking.Account,
11      sync out accountId : long
12    );
13  }
14 }
```

- By intent, no integrated modeling concepts for technologies (e.g., JDL<sup>2</sup>) and patterns (e.g., MicroDSL [12] or MiSAR [1]) ⇒ Keep language core concise, foster learnability

<sup>2</sup><https://www.jhipster.tech/jdl>

- LEMMA Model Examples

## Domain Model

```
1 // Model file: Banking.data
2 context Banking {
3   structure Account<entity> {
4     long id<identifier>,
5     Person owner,
6     double balance
7   }
8
9   structure Person {
10    string firstname,
11    string lastname,
12    date birthday
13  }
14 }
```

## Service Model

```
1 // Model file: Banking.services
2 import datatypes from "Banking.data" as Domain
3 functional microservice org.example.BankingService {
4   interface AccountManagement {
5     ---
6     API endpoint for creating a new account
7     @required account The new account
8     ---
9     createAccount (
10      sync in account : Domain::Banking.Account,
11      sync out accountId : long
12    );
13  }
14 }
```

- By intent, no integrated modeling concepts for technologies (e.g., JDL<sup>2</sup>) and patterns (e.g., MicroDSL [12] or MiSAR [1]) ⇒ Keep language core concise, foster learnability

<sup>2</sup><https://www.jhipster.tech/jdl>

- LEMMA Model Examples

## Domain Model

```
1 // Model file: Banking.data
2 context Banking {
3   structure Account<entity> {
4     long id<identifier>,
5     Person owner,
6     double balance
7   }
8
9   structure Person {
10    string firstname,
11    string lastname,
12    date birthday
13  }
14 }
```

## Service Model

```
1 // Model file: Banking.services
2 import datatypes from "Banking.data" as Domain
3 functional microservice org.example.BankingService {
4   interface AccountManagement {
5     ---
6     API endpoint for creating a new account
7     @required account The new account
8     ---
9     createAccount (
10      sync in account : Domain::Banking.Account,
11      sync out accountId : long
12    );
13  }
14 }
```

- By intent, no integrated modeling concepts for technologies (e.g., JDL<sup>2</sup>) and patterns (e.g., MicroDSL [12] or MiSAR [1]) ⇒ **Keep language core concise, foster learnability**

<sup>2</sup><https://www.jhipster.tech/jdl>

- LEMMA Model Examples

## Domain Model

```
1 // Model file: Banking.data
2 context Banking {
3   structure Account<entity> {
4     long id<identifier>,
5     Person owner,
6     double balance
7   }
8
9   structure Person {
10    string firstname,
11    string lastname,
12    date birthday
13  }
14 }
```

## Service Model (with technology metadata)

```
1 // Model file: Banking.services
2 import datatypes from "Banking.data" as Domain
3 import technology from "Spring.technology" as spring
4 @technology(spring)
5 functional microservice org.example.BankingService {
6   interface AccountManagement {
7     ---
8     API endpoint for creating a new account
9     @required account The new account
10    ---
11    @endpoints(spring::_protocols.rest: "/accounts");
12    @spring::_aspects.PostMapping
13    createAccount (
14      sync in account : Domain::Banking.Account,
15      sync out accountId : long
16    );
17  }
18 }
```



- What is LEMMA usable for?
  - Code generation [7]
  - Semi-automatic transformation of tactical Domain-driven Design models into executable microservices [2, 6]
  - Reconstruction and model-based quality analysis of microservice architectures [5]
- 💡 Now: Support integration of architecture patterns, e.g., Event Sourcing or CQRS [8], in models without having to adapt LEMMA's modeling languages

- What is LEMMA usable for?
  - Code generation [7]
  - Semi-automatic transformation of tactical Domain-driven Design models into executable microservices [2, 6]
  - Reconstruction and model-based quality analysis of microservice architectures [5]
  - 💡 Now: Support integration of architecture patterns, e.g., Event Sourcing or CQRS [8], in models without having to adapt LEMMA's modeling languages

# Table of Contents

Introduction

Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

Future Work

# Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

- Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

## Goals

🚩 Flexible, need-based pattern addition/usage

🚩 Check pattern compliance at design time

🚩 Interactive fixing of pattern compliance violations during model construction

## Solution Steps

🔧 Construct a **pattern-specific technology model**

🔧 Implement a **pattern-specific model validator** with LEMMA's model processing framework. The framework integrates with the Language Server Protocol (LSP)<sup>3</sup>.

---

<sup>3</sup><https://microsoft.github.io/language-server-protocol>

# Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

- Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

## Goals

🚩 Flexible, need-based pattern addition/usage

🚩 Check pattern compliance at design time

🚩 Interactive fixing of pattern compliance violations during model construction

## Solution Steps

🔧 Construct a **pattern-specific technology model**

🔧 Implement a **pattern-specific model validator** with LEMMA's model processing framework. The framework integrates with the Language Server Protocol (LSP)<sup>3</sup>.

---

<sup>3</sup><https://microsoft.github.io/language-server-protocol>

# Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

- Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

## Goals

🚩 Flexible, need-based pattern addition/usage

🚩 Check pattern compliance at design time

🚩 Interactive fixing of pattern compliance violations during model construction

## Solution Steps

🔧 Construct a **pattern-specific technology model**

🔧 Implement a **pattern-specific model validator** with LEMMA's model processing framework. The framework integrates with the Language Server Protocol (LSP)<sup>3</sup>.

---

<sup>3</sup><https://microsoft.github.io/language-server-protocol>

# Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

- Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

## Goals

🚩 Flexible, need-based pattern addition/usage

🚩 Check pattern compliance at design time

🚩 Interactive fixing of pattern compliance violations during model construction

## Solution Steps

🔧 Construct a **pattern-specific technology model**

🔧 Implement a **pattern-specific model validator** with LEMMA's model processing framework. The framework integrates with the Language Server Protocol (LSP)<sup>3</sup>.

---

<sup>3</sup><https://microsoft.github.io/language-server-protocol>

# Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

- Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

## Goals

🚩 Flexible, need-based pattern addition/usage

🚩 Check pattern compliance at design time

🚩 Interactive fixing of pattern compliance violations during model construction

## Solution Steps

🔧 Construct a **pattern-specific technology model**

🔧 Implement a **pattern-specific model validator** with LEMMA's model processing framework. The **framework integrates with the Language Server Protocol (LSP)**<sup>3</sup>.

---

<sup>3</sup><https://microsoft.github.io/language-server-protocol>



- Example from the Event Sourcing pattern [8]
  - **Event Producer** concept:
    1. Event producers are **microservice operations** that create and send domain events
    2. The sending of domain events happens **asynchronously**

## Event Producers in LEMMA

Event Producers need to be modeled as microservice operations with an asynchronous result parameter

- Example from the Event Sourcing pattern [8]
  - **Event Producer** concept:
    1. Event producers are **microservice operations** that create and send domain events
    2. The sending of domain events happens **asynchronously**

## Event Producers in LEMMA

Event Producers need to be modeled as microservice operations with an asynchronous result parameter

- Example from the Event Sourcing pattern: Construct technology model

```
1 // Model file name: EventSourcing.technology
2 technology EventSourcing {
3     service aspects {
4         aspect Producer for operations;
5     }
6 }
```

**Listing 1:** LEMMA technology model for the Event Sourcing pattern.

# Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

- Example from the Event Sourcing pattern: Construct technology model

Event Producers may be modeled as microservice operations (**structural constraint**)

```
1 // Model for Event Sourcing pattern
2 technology EventSourcing {
3   service aspects {
4     aspect Producer for operations;
5   }
6 }
```

**Listing 1:** LEMMA technology model for the Event Sourcing pattern.

# Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

- Example from the Event Sourcing pattern: Apply technology model

```
1 // Model file name: Banking.services
2 import datatypes from "Banking.data" as Domain
3 import technology from "EventSourcing.technology" as EventSourcing
4
5 @technology(EventSourcing)
6 functional microservice org.example.BankingService {
7   @EventSourcing::_aspects.Producer
8   sendAccountCreatedEvent (
9     async out event : Banking.AccountCreatedEvent
10  );
11 }
```

Listing 2: LEMMA technology model for the Event Sourcing pattern.

- Example from the Event Sourcing pattern: Implement model validator

```
1 // Kotlin file: ServiceModelSourceValidator.kt in EventSourcingValidator.jar
2 @SourceModelValidator
3 class ServiceModelSourceValidator : AbstractXtextSourceModelValidator() {
4     @Check
5     private fun checkProducer(operation: Operation) {
6         if (operation.hasAspect("EventSourcing.Producer") && !operation.hasAsynchronousResultParameter())
7             error("The Producer aspect may only be applied to operations with a result parameter",
8                 ServicePackage.Literals.OPERATION__NAME)
9     }
10 }
```

**Listing 3:** Constraint validation within the Event Sourcing Validator (Kotlin).

- Example from the Event Sourcing pattern: Implement model validator

```
1 // Kotlin file: ServiceModelSourceValidator.kt in EventSourcingValidator.jar
2 @SourceModelValidator
3 class ServiceModelSourceValidator : AbstractXtextSourceModelValidator() {
4     @Check
5     private fun checkProducer(operation: Operation) {
6         if (operation.hasAspect("EventSourcing.Producer") && !operation.hasAsynchronousResultParameter())
7             error("The Producer aspect may only be applied to operations with a result parameter",
8                 ServicePackage.Literals.OPERATION__NAME)
9     }
10 }
```

**Listing 3:** Constraint validation within the Event Sourcing Validator (Kotlin).

# Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

- Example from the Event Sourcing pattern: Implement model validator

```
1 // Kotlin file: ServiceModelSourceValidator.kt
2 @SourceModelValidator
3 class ServiceModelSourceValidator : AbstractXtend
4 @Check
5 private fun checkProducer(operation: Operation) {
6     if (operation.hasAspect("EventSourcing.Producer") && !operation.hasAsynchronousResultParameter())
7         error("The Producer aspect may only be applied to operations with a result parameter",
8             ServicePackage.Literals.OPERATION__NAME)
9 }
10 }
```

Event Producers must have at least one asynchronous result parameter (semantic constraint)

**Listing 3:** Constraint validation within the Event Sourcing Validator (Kotlin).



# Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

- Example from the Event Sourcing pattern: Implement model validator

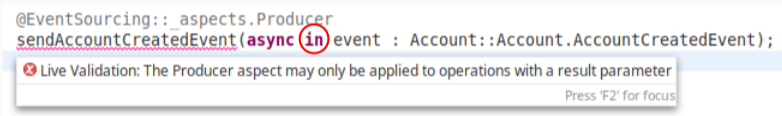
```
1 // Kotlin file: ServiceModelSourceValidator.kt
2 @SourceModelValidator
3 class ServiceModelSourceValidator : AbstractXtend
4 @Check
5 private fun checkProducer(operation: Operation) {
6     if (operation.hasAspect("EventSourcing.Producer") && !operation.hasAsynchronousResultParameter())
7         error("The Producer aspect may only be applied to operations with a result parameter",
8             ServicePackage.Literals.OPERATION__NAME)
9 }
10 }
```

Event Producers must have at least one asynchronous result parameter (semantic constraint)

**Listing 3:** Constraint validation within the Event Sourcing Validator (Kotlin).

# Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

- Example from the Event Sourcing pattern: Implement model validator
  - **LEMMA Live Validation**: Connect with IDE via LSP and display markers for source model validation errors



**Figure 1:** Pattern constraint violation displayed at design time in Eclipse

# Table of Contents

Introduction

Extending LEMMA with Architecture Pattern Support

Future Work

- Future Work
  - Lower complexity of pattern integration process
    - 💡 Employ Object Constraint Language (OCL) [4] to specify semantic pattern constraints
    - 💡 Generate LEMMA model validators from OCL models
  - Capture additional patterns for use with LEMMA, e.g., Saga and API Composition [8]

- Future Work
  - Lower complexity of pattern integration process
    - 💡 Employ Object Constraint Language (OCL) [4] to specify semantic pattern constraints
    - 💡 Generate LEMMA model validators from OCL models
  - Capture additional patterns for use with LEMMA, e.g., Saga and API Composition [8]

- [1] Nuha Alshuqayran, Nour Ali, and Roger Evans. “Towards Micro Service Architecture Recovery: An Empirical Study.” In: 2018 IEEE International Conference on Software Architecture (ICSA). IEEE, 2018, pp. 47–56.
- [2] Eric Evans. Domain-Driven Design. Addison-Wesley, 2004.
- [3] Welder Pinheiro Luz, Gustavo Pinto, and Rodrigo Bonifácio. “Building a Collaborative Culture: A Grounded Theory of Well Succeeded DevOps Adoption in Practice.” In: Proc. of the 12th ACM/IEEE Int. Symp. on Empirical Softw. Eng. and Measurement. ESEM '18. Oulu, Finland: ACM, 2018, 6:1–6:10.

- [4] OMG. Object Constraint Language Version 2.4. Standard formal/2014-02-03. Object Management Group, 2014.
- [5] Florian Rademacher, Sabine Sachweh, and Albert Zündorf. “A Modeling Method for Systematic Architecture Reconstruction of Microservice-Based Software Systems.” In: Enterprise, Business-Process and Information Systems Modeling. Ed. by Selmin Nurcan et al. Springer, May 2020, pp. 311–326.
- [6] Florian Rademacher, Sabine Sachweh, and Albert Zündorf. “Deriving Microservice Code from Underspecified Domain Models Using DevOps-Enabled Modeling Languages and Model Transformations.” In: Proc. of the 46th Euromicro Conf. on Softw. Eng. and Advanced Applications (SEAA). IEEE, 2020, pp. 229–236.

- [7] Florian Rademacher et al. “Graphical and Textual Model-Driven Microservice Development.” In: Microservices: Science and Engineering. Ed. by Antonio Bucchiarone et al. Springer, 2020, pp. 147–179.
- [8] Chris Richardson. Microservices Patterns. First. Manning Publications, 2019.
- [9] Davide Di Ruscio et al. “Developing next generation ADLs through MDE techniques.” In: 2010 ACM/IEEE 32nd International Conference on Software Engineering. Vol. 1. IEEE, 2010, pp. 85–94.
- [10] Jacopo Soldani, Damian Andrew Tamburri, and Willem-Jan Van Den Heuvel. “The pains and gains of microservices: A Systematic grey literature review.” In: Journal of Systems and Software 146 (2018). Elsevier, pp. 215–232.



- [11] Davide Taibi and Valentina Lenarduzzi. “On the Definition of Microservice Bad Smells.” In: IEEE Software 35.3 (May 2018). IEEE, pp. 56–62.
- [12] Branko Terzić et al. “Development and evaluation of MicroBuilder: a Model-Driven tool for the specification of REST Microservice Software Architectures.” In: Enterprise Information Systems 12.8-9 (2018). Taylor & Francis, pp. 1034–1057. eprint: <https://doi.org/10.1080/17517575.2018.1460766>.