

# S-Cube

## Addressing Multi-disciplinary Research Challenges for Software Services

**Andreas Metzger**

Software Systems Engineering  
Institute for Computer Science and  
Business Information Systems (ICB)  
University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany  
[www.sse.uni-due.de](http://www.sse.uni-due.de)



# Agenda

- **The Future of Software Services**

Some trends

- **Service-oriented Architecture**

“State of the Art” & Need for Integration of Research

- **S-Cube**

The Software Service and Systems Network

- **The S-Cube Research Framework**

Addressing Cross-Disciplinary Research Challenges



# The Future of Software Services

## Some Trends

- YouTube accounts for 27 Petabytes of Internet traffic in 2006.
- This is about as much traffic as the whole Internet traffic in 2000

User generated content:

Year 2006: 160 Exabyte

(= 12 book stacks from earth to sun)

Year 2010: 990 Exabyte

Recorded outputs of every human language since world began:  
5 Exabyte

Social Networking websites  
(e.g., facebook or myspace.com)

1 Billion people registered

3 Billion minutes spent every day

8 Billion pages accessed every day

Source: Presentation by Joao Da Silva (European Commission Director Converged Networks and Services) at the NESSI General Assembly

# The Future of Software Services

## Some Trends

Software is at the core of the  
Information Society

1 Million specialists in the EU

76 B€ software market

**Today:** every EU industry sector depends on  
Software

***Tomorrow every EU industry sector will  
succeed only when mastering  
software and services complexity***

Source: Presentation by Joao Da Silva (European Commission Director  
Converged Networks and Services) at the NESSI General Assembly

# The Future of Software Services

## Some Trends

### Future Software Services and Systems

- ... will serve **fixed, mobile and “nomadic” users**
- ... will be **ubiquitous**
- ... will **change their functionality and quality dynamically (& proactively) depending on the context** (incl. physical usage environment)
- ... can be easily assembled by laypersons to **create innovative applications** (“user-generated services”)
- ... will exploit high-speed networks and **virtualization of the infrastructure**
- ...

Source: Report on longer term research challenges in Software & Services;  
Mike Papazoglou Klaus Pohl (Eds.); <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ict/ssai/>

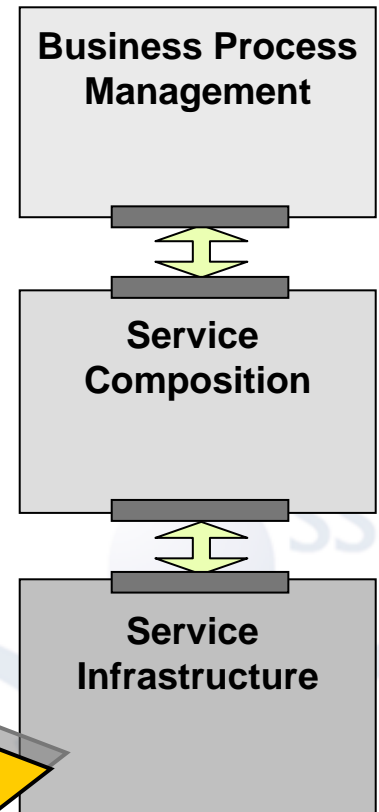
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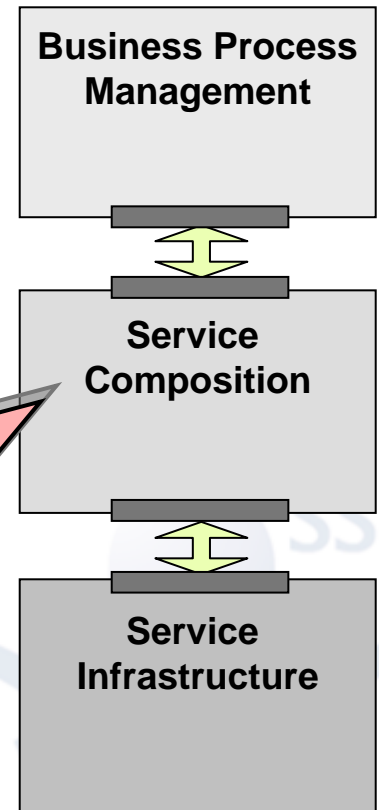
# State of the Art SOA Functional Layers

- **describing, publishing and discovering services**
  - facilities for service description (e.g., WSDL)
  - capabilities for service discovery (e.g., UDDI)
- **run-time environment for execution of service-based systems (computing nodes)**
  - primitives for service communication (e.g., SOAP)



# State of the Art SOA Functional Layers

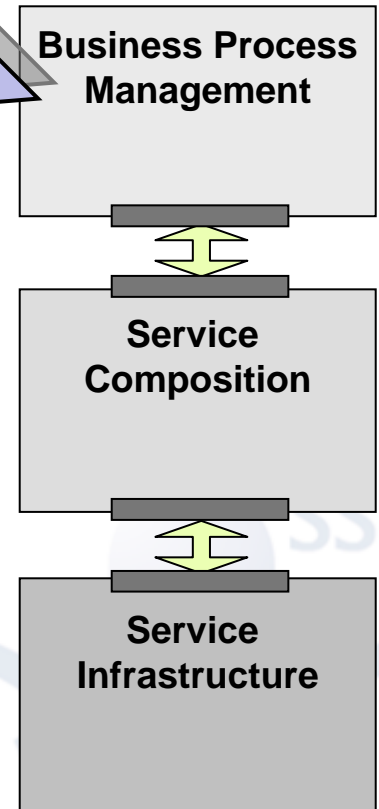
- (hierarchical) **aggregation of multiple (individual) services** into service compositions
- specifying (e.g., using BPEL), controlling and **coordinating the execution** of aggregated services
- **managing data flow & control flow** between aggregated services





# State of the Art SOA Functional Layers

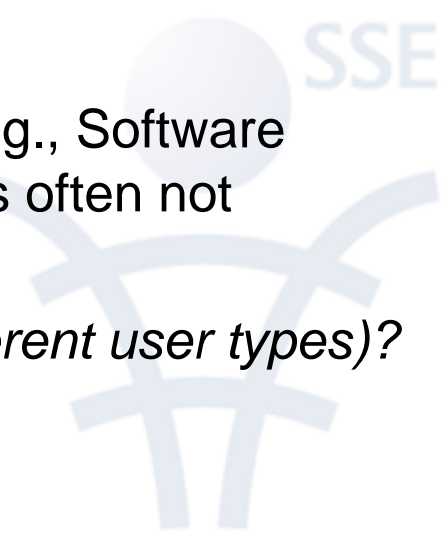
- end-to-end **visibility and control of business processes**
  - spanning multiple organizations; involving human actors
- mechanisms for expressing, understanding, representing and **managing an organization in terms of a collection of business processes**



# State of the Art

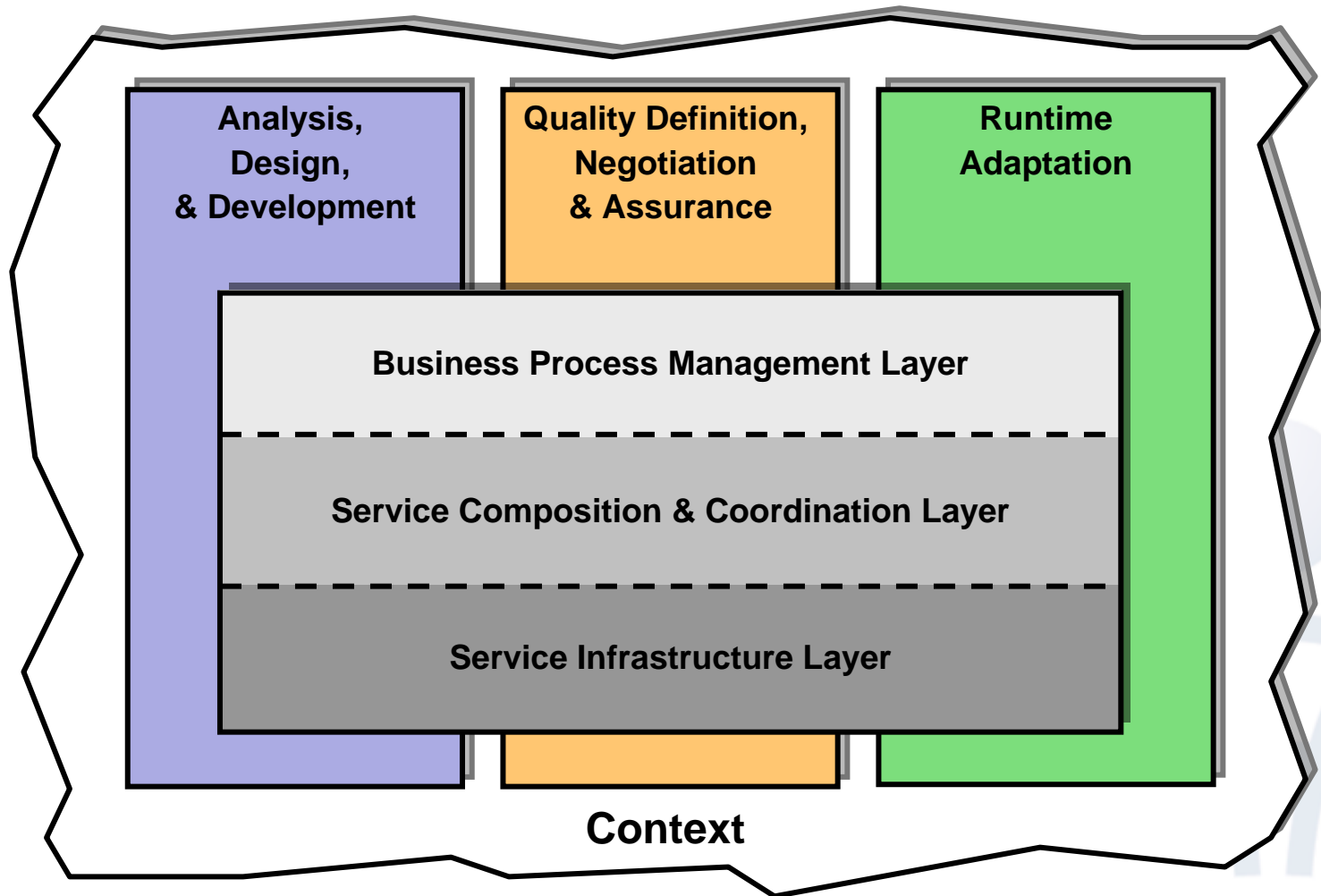
## Observations

- Focusing on the functional layers is **not sufficient** to build future software services and systems
  - Existing **isolated / local solutions** (in the individual layers) are not enough to address cross-cutting issues
    - *How to handle conflicting adaptations in different layers?*
    - *How to manage quality of service across all layers?*
  - **Huge body of knowledge** of many communities (e.g., Software Engineering; Human Computer Interaction), which is often not exploited by other communities
    - *How to realize context-aware systems (e.g., different user types)?*

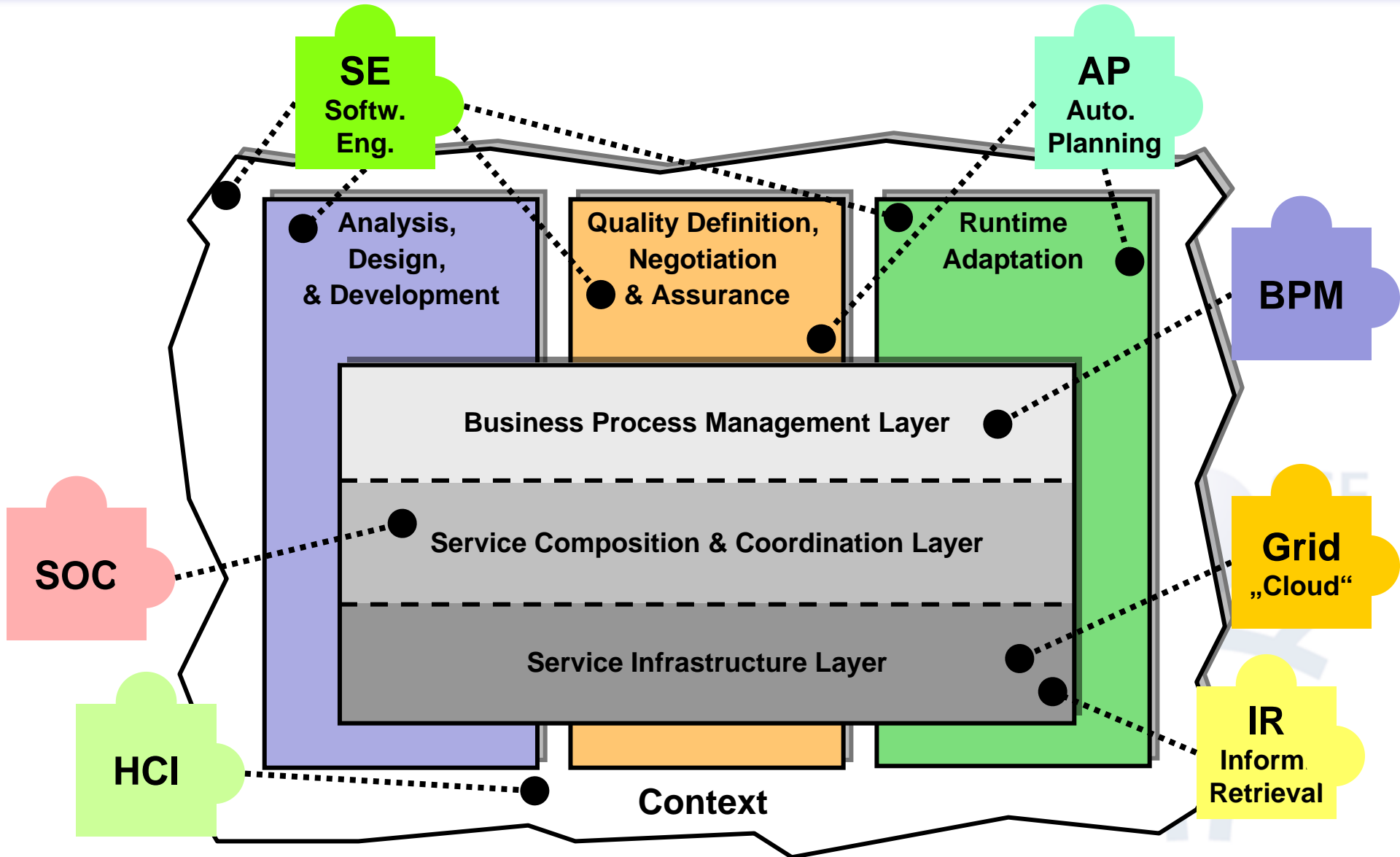


# State of the Art

## Cross-cutting Issues



# State of the Art Contributions of Disciplines



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Addressing Cross-Disciplinary Research Challenges



# S-Cube Overview

- **Software Services and Systems Network**



- **FP 7 Network of Excellence**

- **Project coordination**

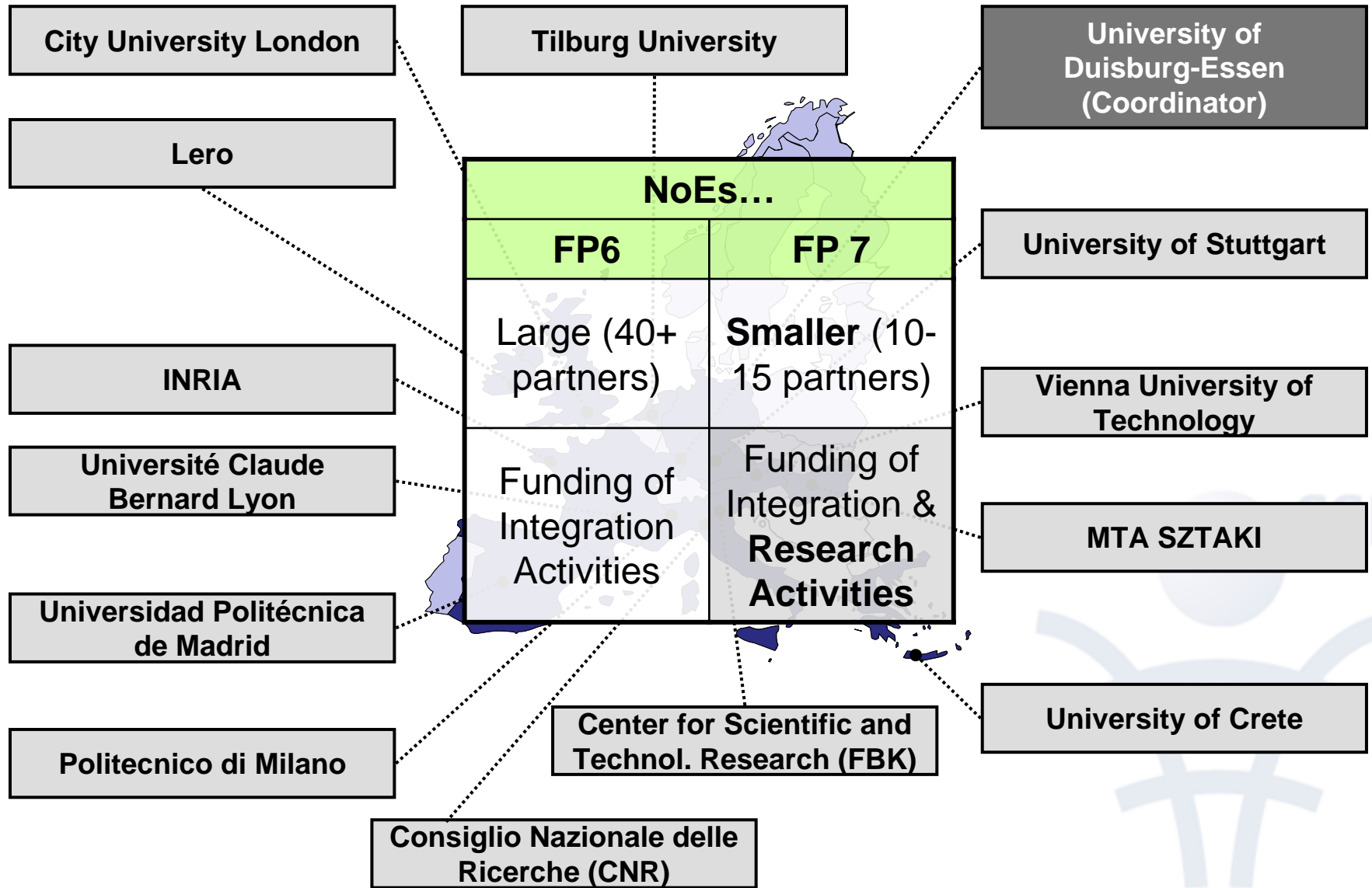
- Prof. Dr. Klaus Pohl (Project Coordinator),  
University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany
- Prof. Dr. Mike Papazoglou (Scientific Director),  
Tilburg University, The Netherlands

- **Duration:** 01.03.2008 – 29.02.2012

- **Total cost:** approx. 11 Mio. EUR

[www.s-cube-network.eu](http://www.s-cube-network.eu)

# S-Cube Partners

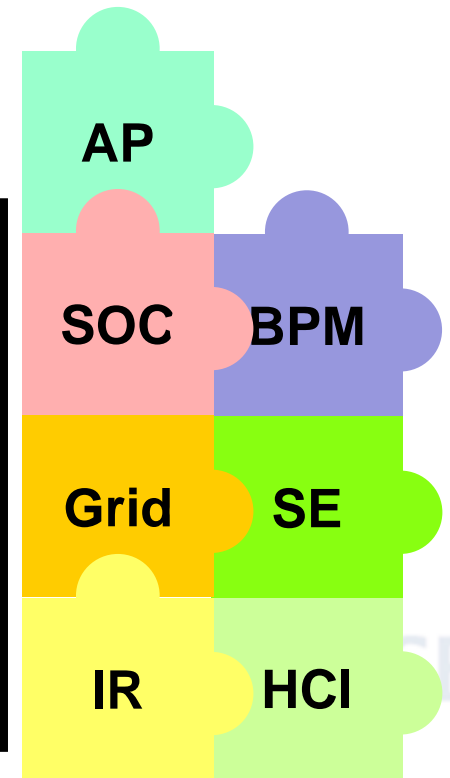


# S-Cube Objectives

- Establish a **unified, multidisciplinary, vibrant research community**

- Invent the next wave of **service technologies**
- Establish **agile & holistic** service **engineering & adaptation** principles, techniques & methods **to foster innovation**

- Inaugurate a **Europe-wide education and training** programme for researchers and industry
- Establish a **trust relationship with industry (via NESSI)**





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**Addressing Cross-Disciplinary Research Challenges**



# S-Cube's Research Framework Overview

## ■ Goals:

- Handling complexity
- Making knowledge of different disciplines explicit in order to avoid overlaps (exploit synergies) and to identify gaps

## ■ Means to achieve Goal:

### – **Clear separation** of concerns:

- Local mechanisms / technologies
- Local principles, techniques and methods

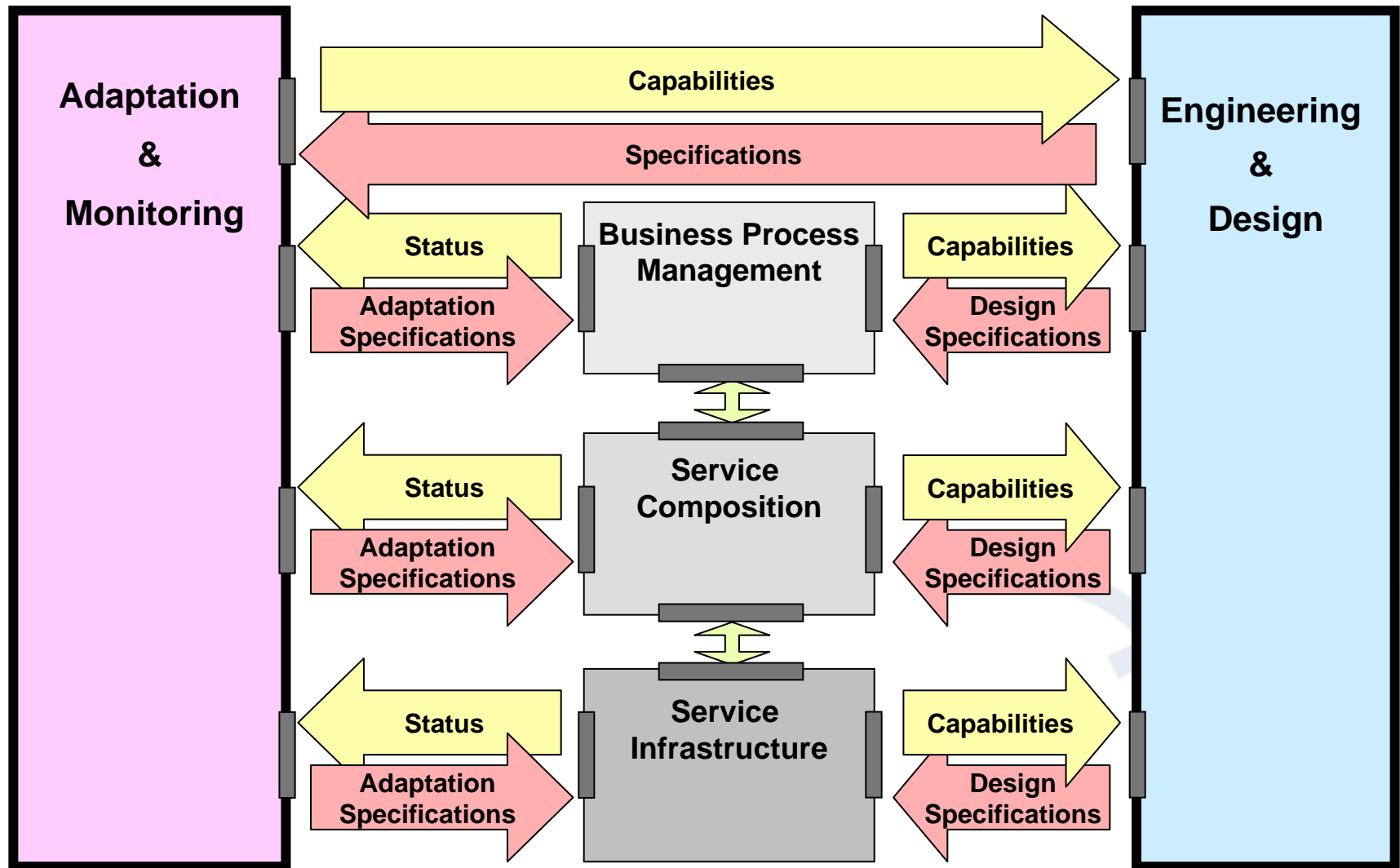
**vs.**

- Global principles, techniques and methods

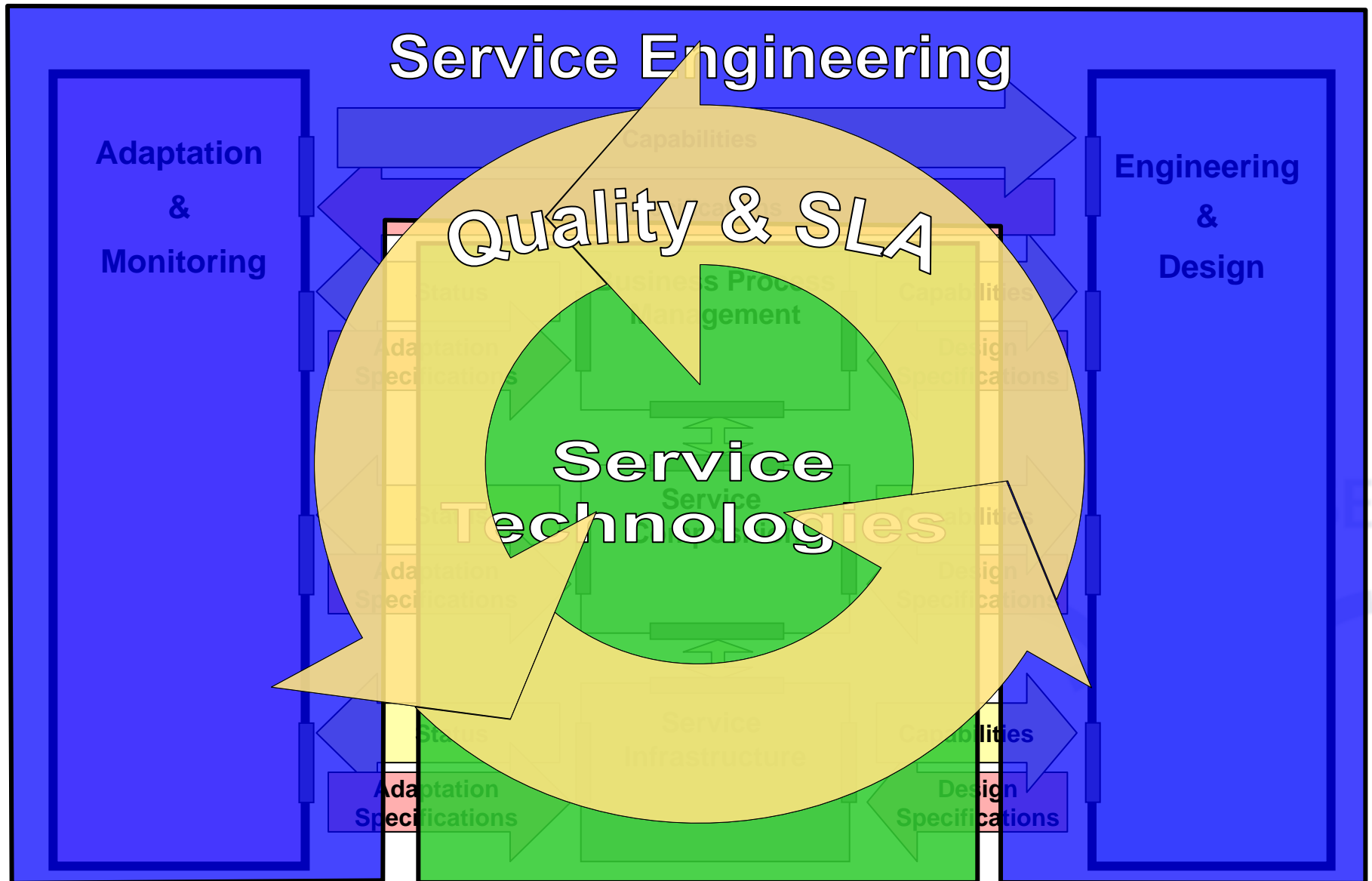
### – **Precise interfaces** between the separate concerns



# S-Cube's Research Framework Overview



# S-Cube's Research Framework Overview



# Challenge:

## Cross-Layer Monitoring



# Challenges for Monitoring

- Situation:

Measurements of KPIs  
(e.g., customer satisfaction)

Run time SLA  
Conformance Check  
(e.g., service availability)

Business Process  
Management

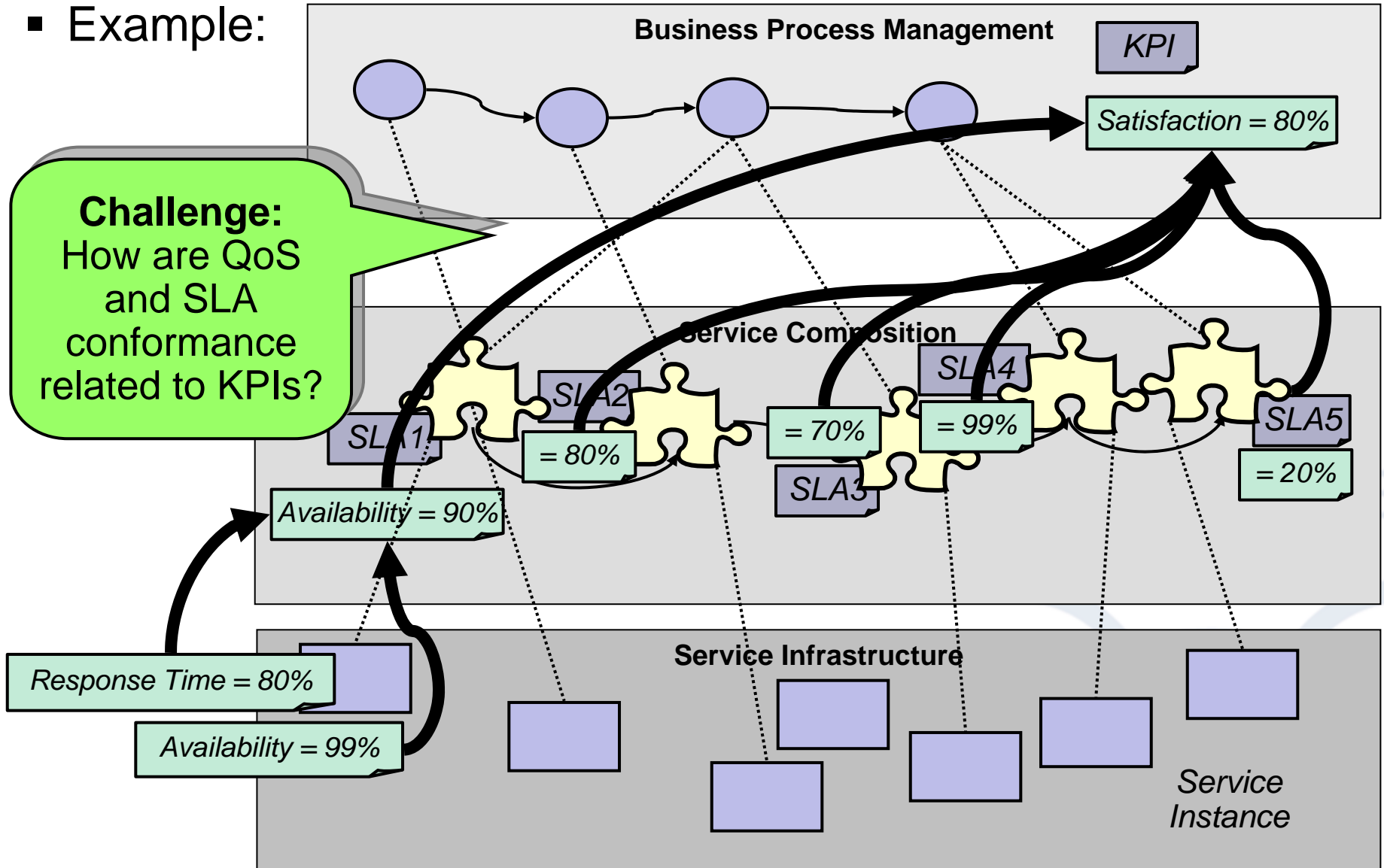
Service  
Composition

Service  
Infrastructure

Infrastructure Monitoring  
(e.g., server availability)

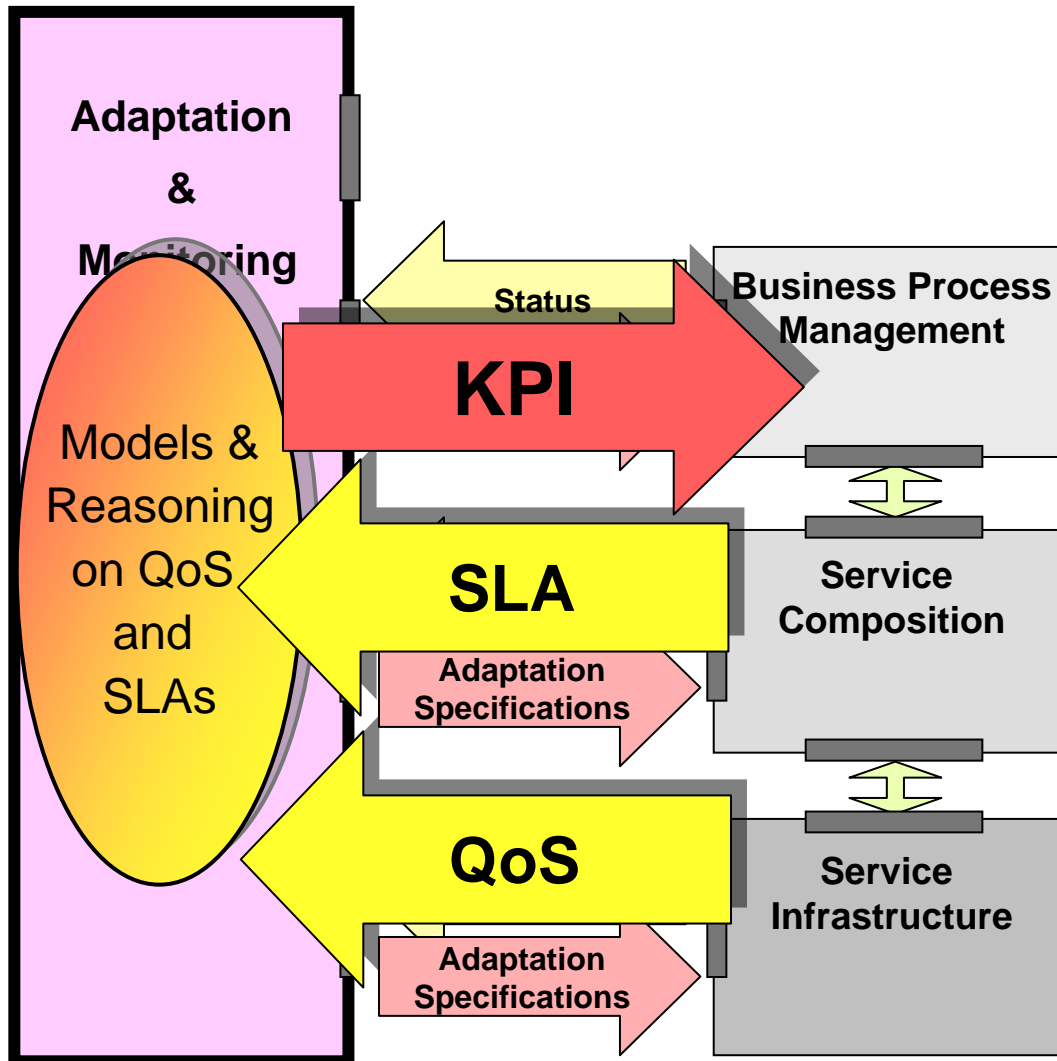
# Challenges for Monitoring

## Example:



# Challenges for Monitoring

- “Solution”:



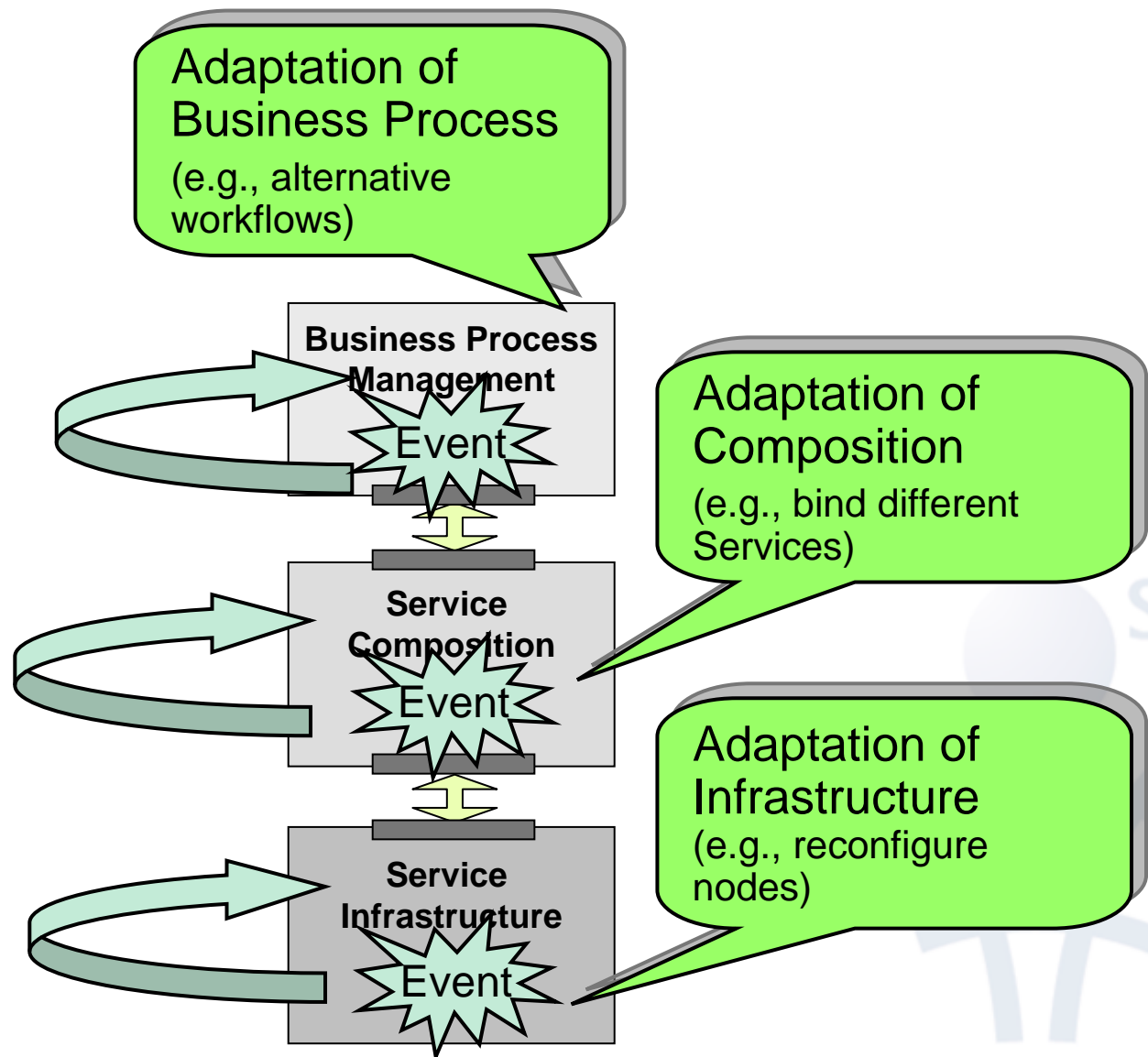


**Challenge:**  
**Cross-Layer Adaptation**



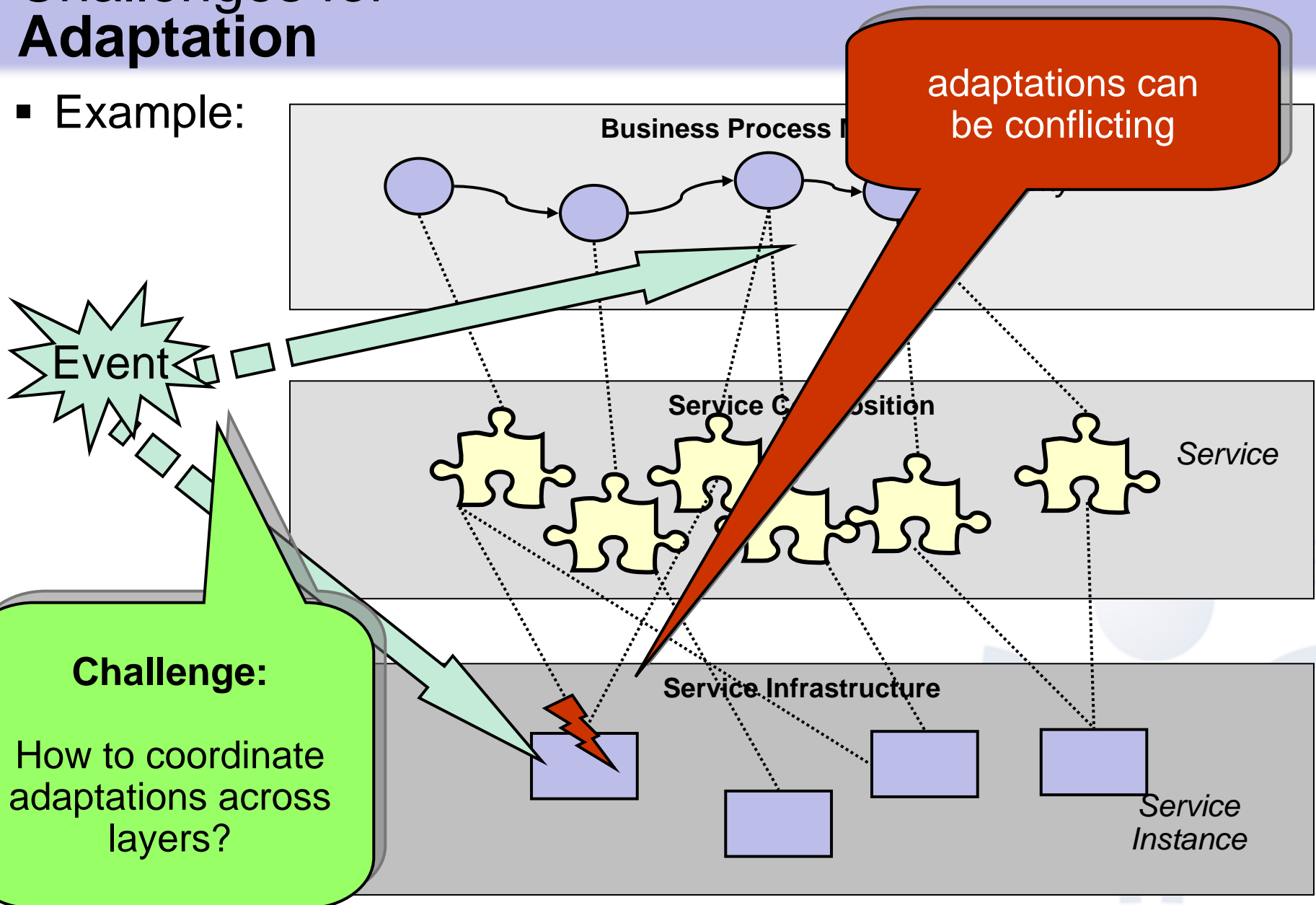
# Challenges for Adaptation

- Situation:



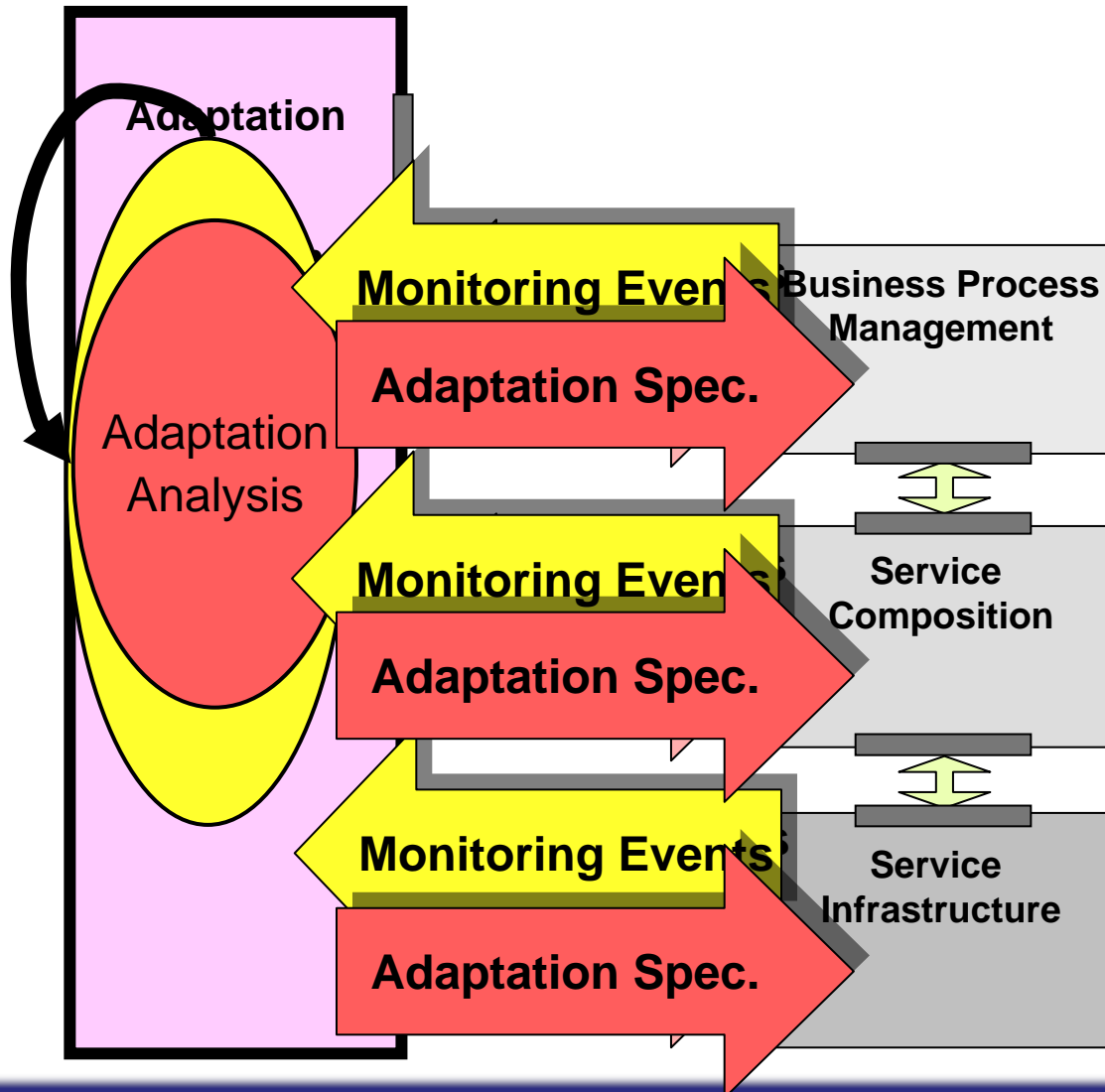
# Challenges for Adaptation

- Example:



# Challenges for Adaptation

- “Solution”:

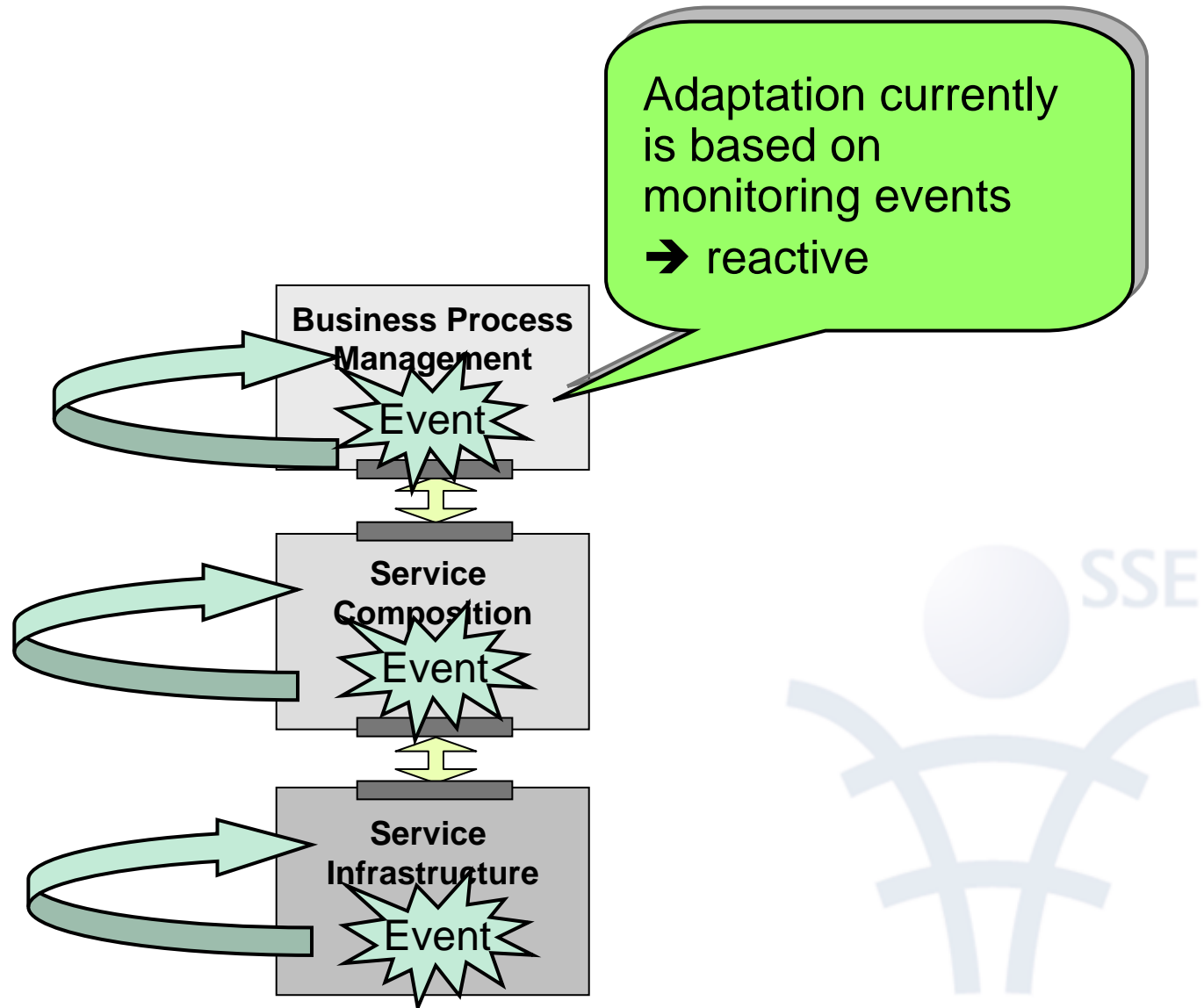


**Challenge:**  
**Proactive Adaptation**



# Challenges for Adaptation

- Situation:



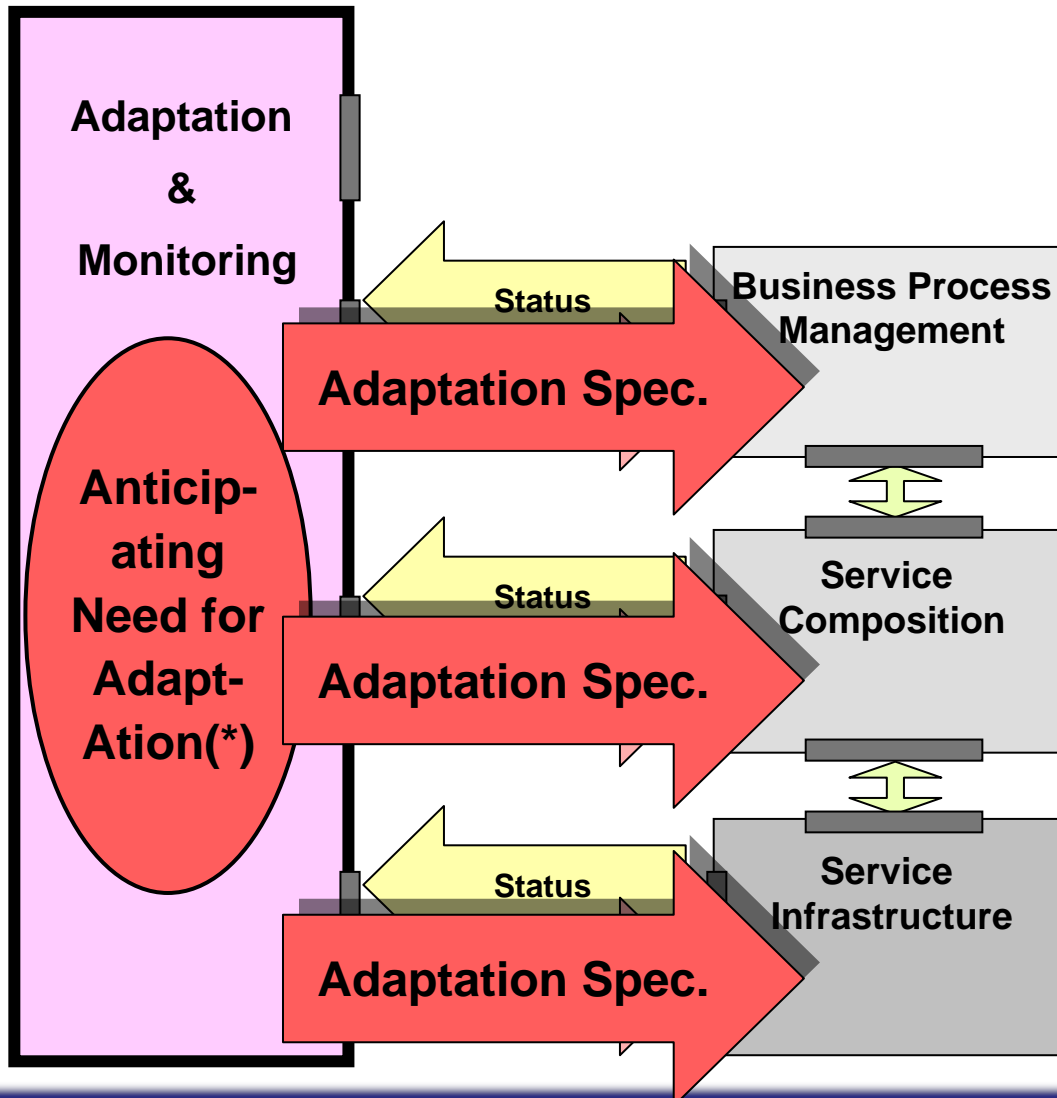
# Challenges for Adaptation

- Drawbacks of “reactive” approach:
  - Executing faulty services can lead to:
    - **loss of money**
    - **unsatisfied users**
  - Execution of adaptation activities increases execution time
    - **reduction of system performance**
  - It might take time before problems in the system lead to monitoring events
    - **monitoring events might arrive so late that adaptation of the system is not possible anymore**



# Challenges for Adaptation

## ■ “Solution”:



(\*) e.g. by means of:

- online testing
- context-observation
- log analysis and prediction



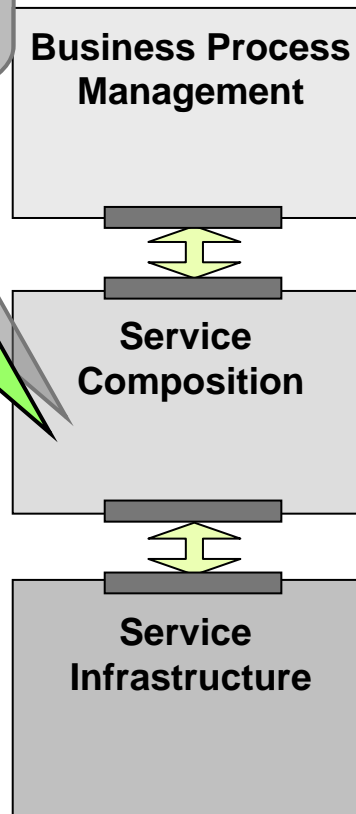
# Challenge: Service Testing



# Challenges for Quality

- Situation:

Test conditions cannot be completely enforced  
(no ownership and control over external services)

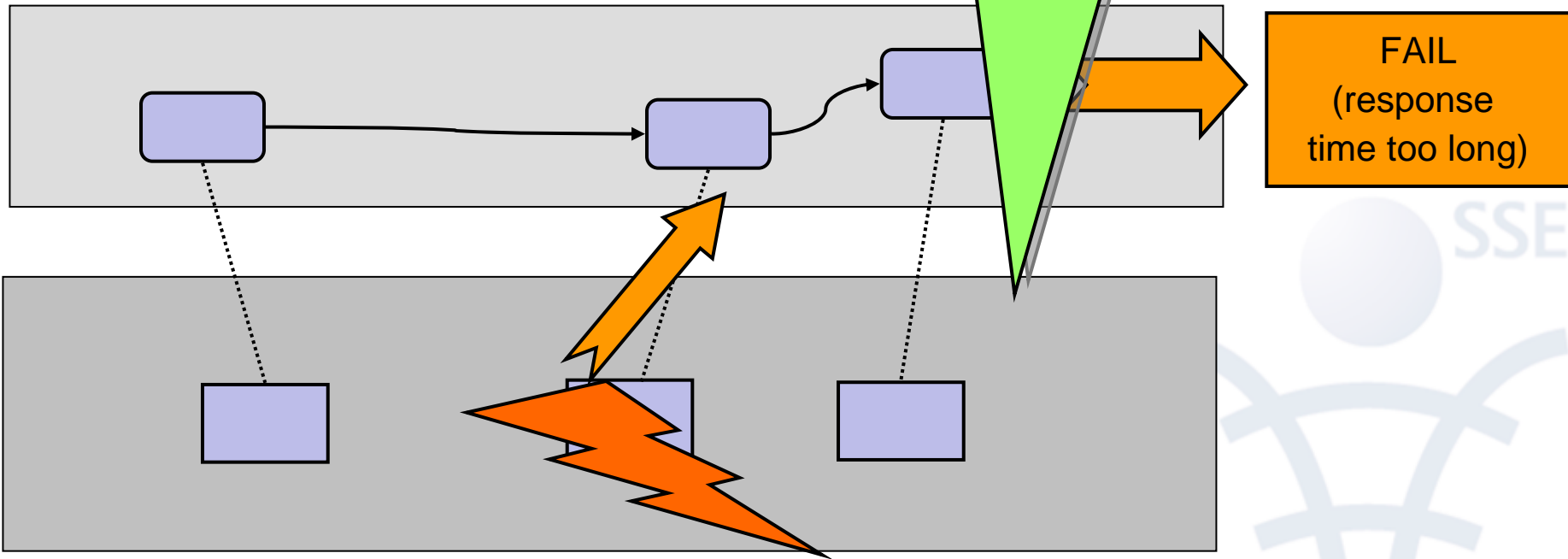


# Challenges for Quality

- Example: Performance Test

**Challenge:**  
How to assess information  
about services required  
during testing?  
(e.g. context conditions like platform  
load etc.)

## Service Composition (To be Tested)

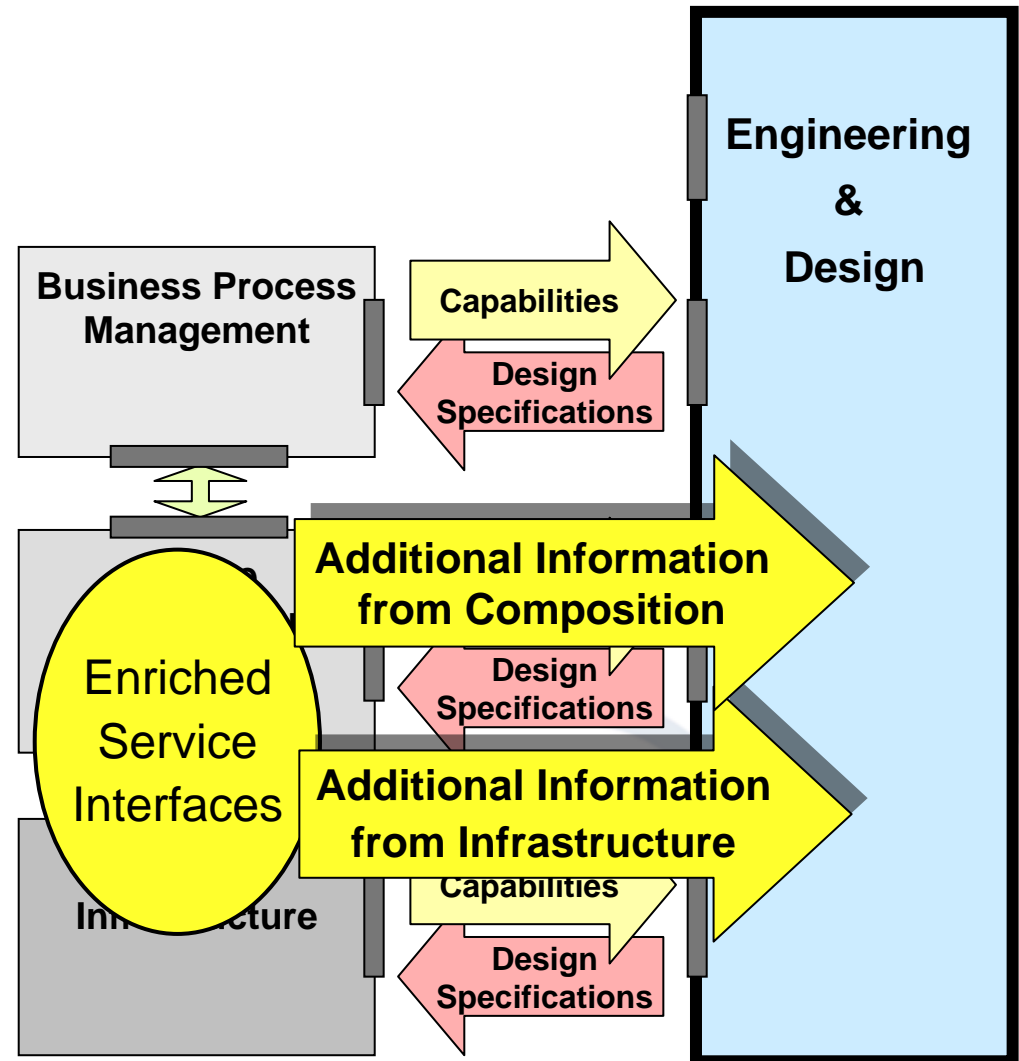


## Service Infrastructure

*High load!*

# Challenges for Quality

- “Solution”:



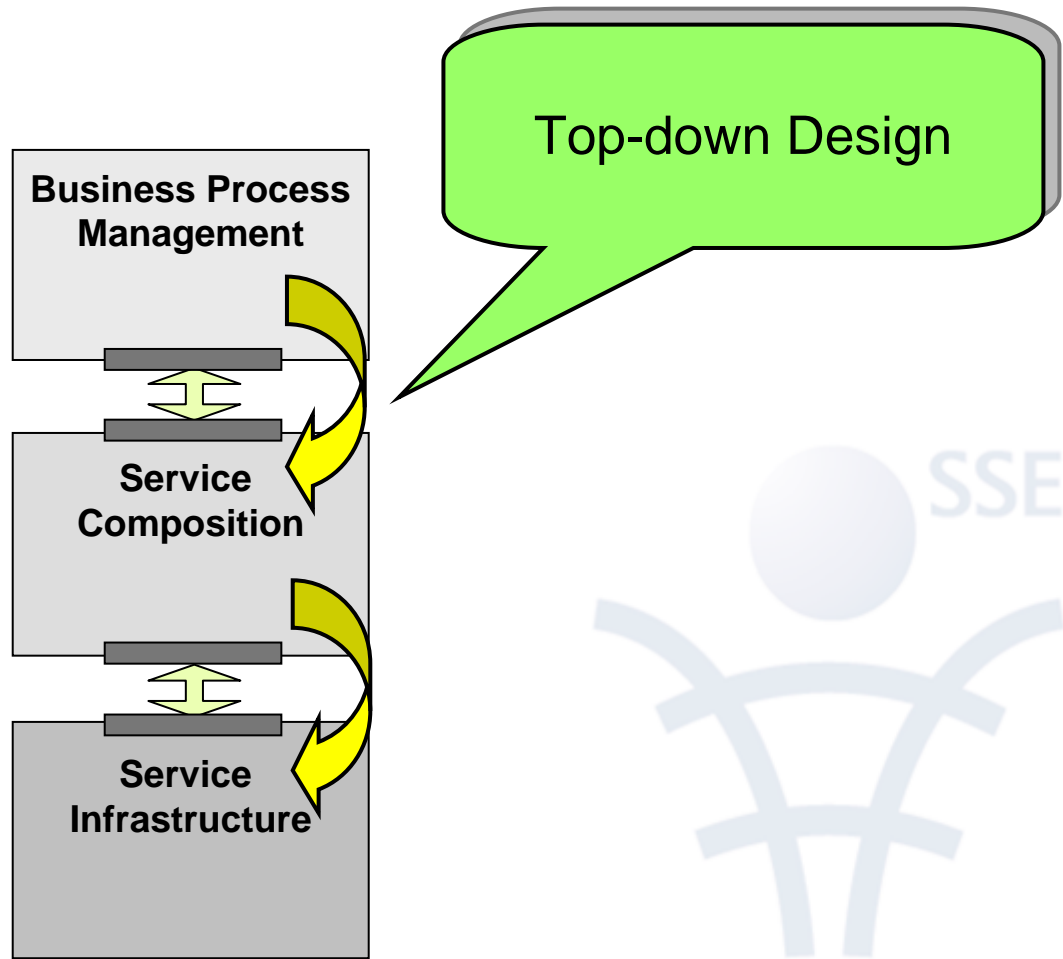
**Challenge:**

**Engineering Innovative Service-Based Systems**



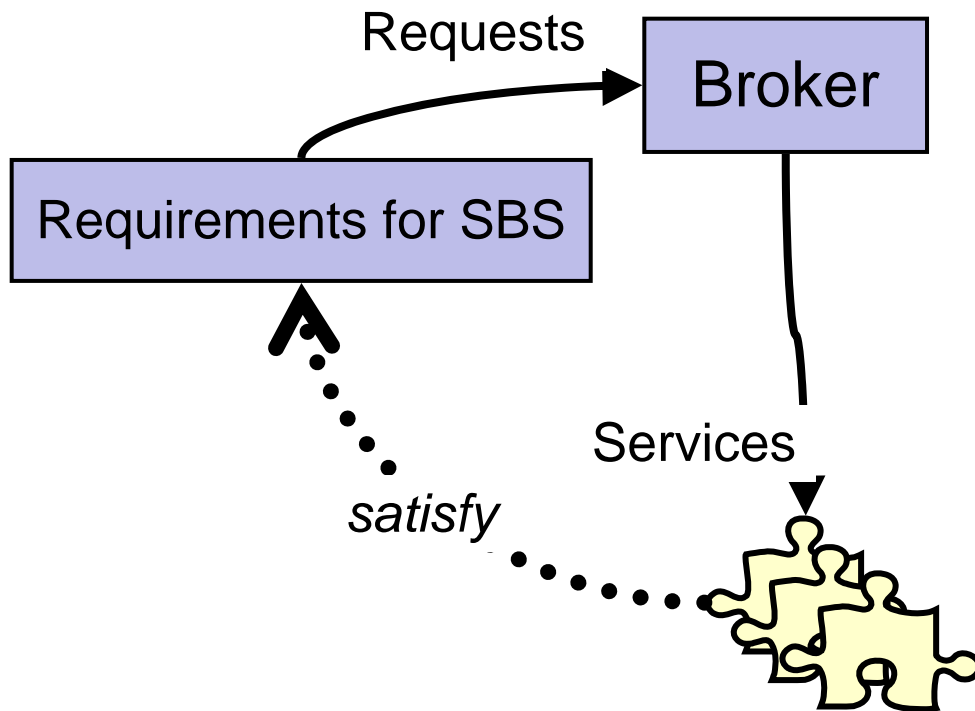
# Challenges for Engineering

- Situation:



# Challenges for Engineering

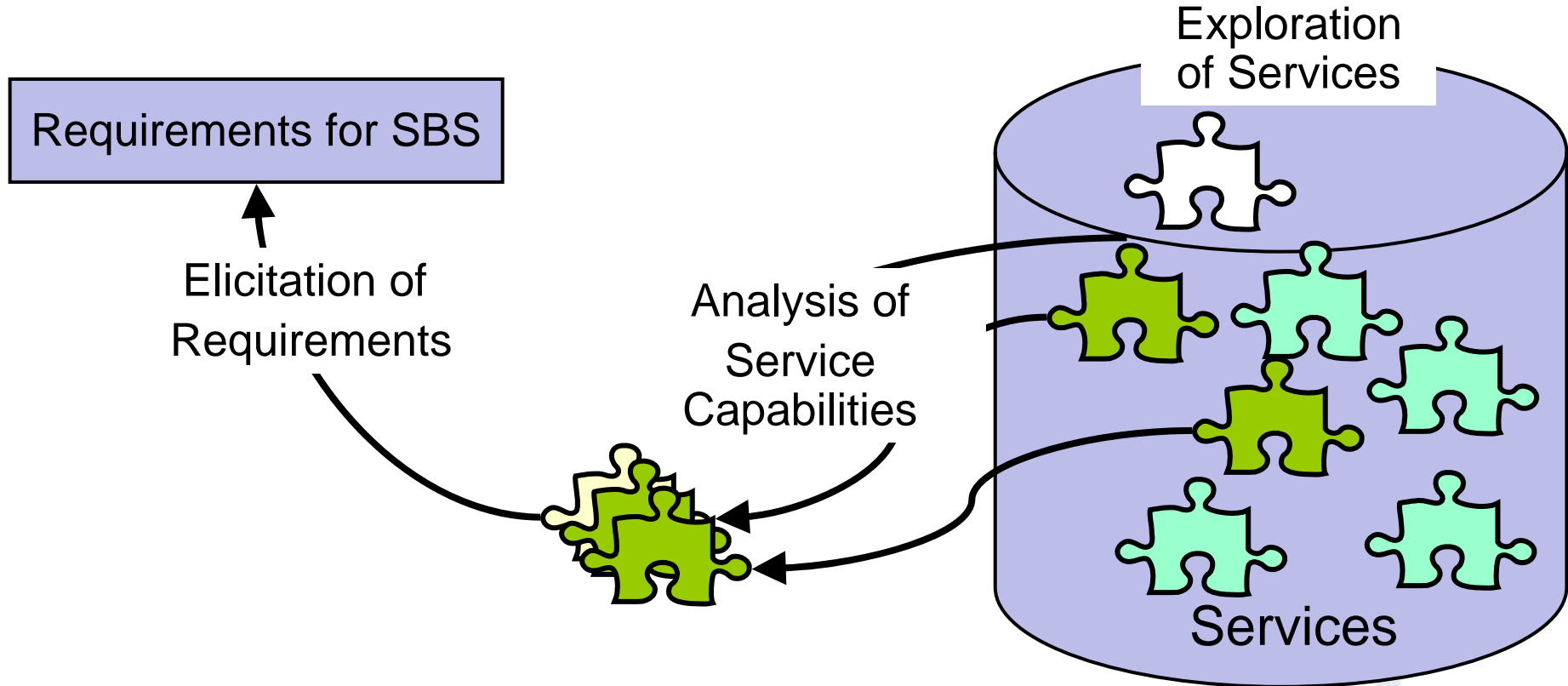
- Example: Traditional Top-Down design of service-based systems



Top-Down design of service-based systems might oversee new services that can foster innovation

# Challenges for Engineering

- Example: Bottom-Up / Exploratory Design

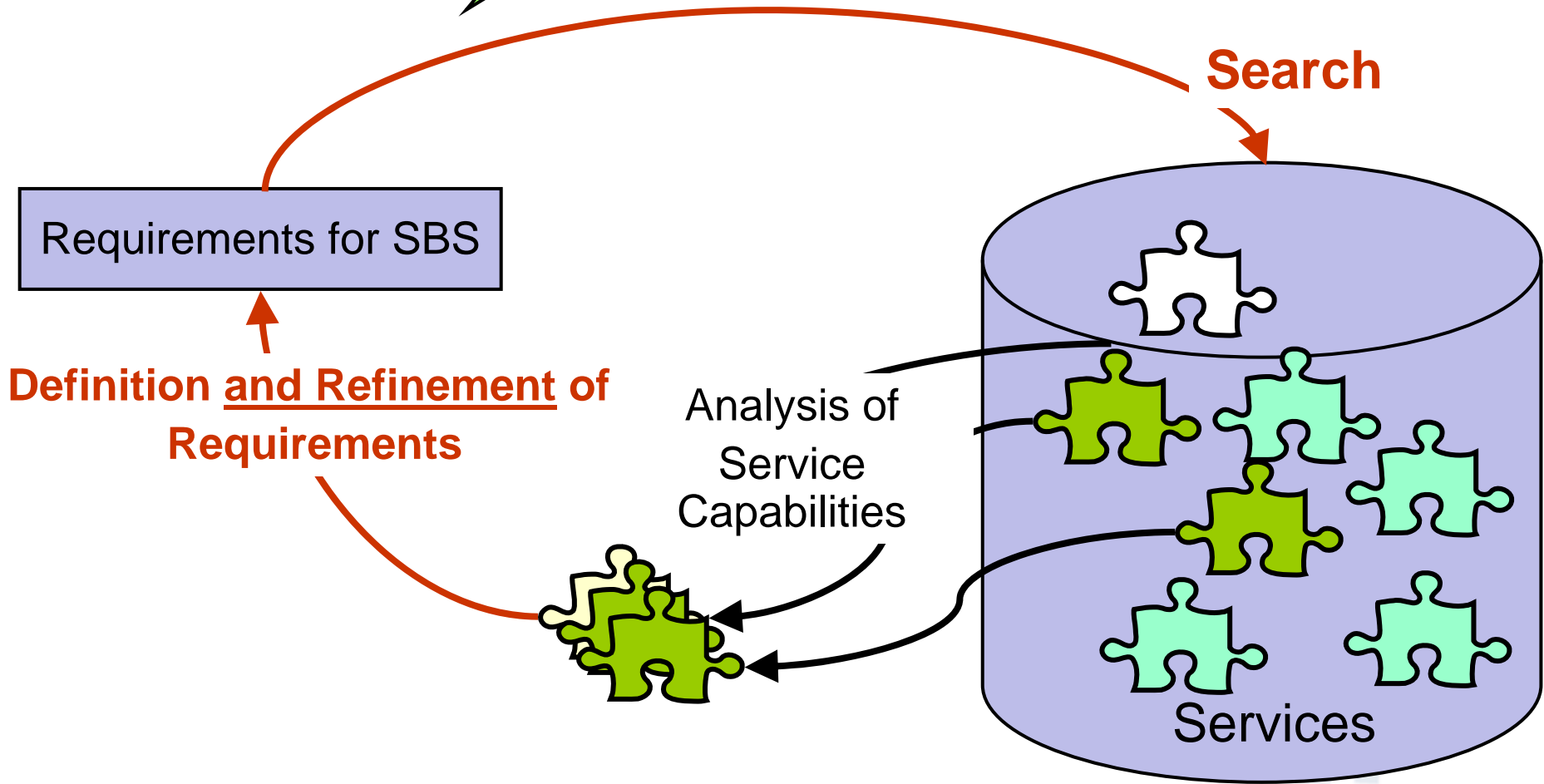




# Challenges for Engineering

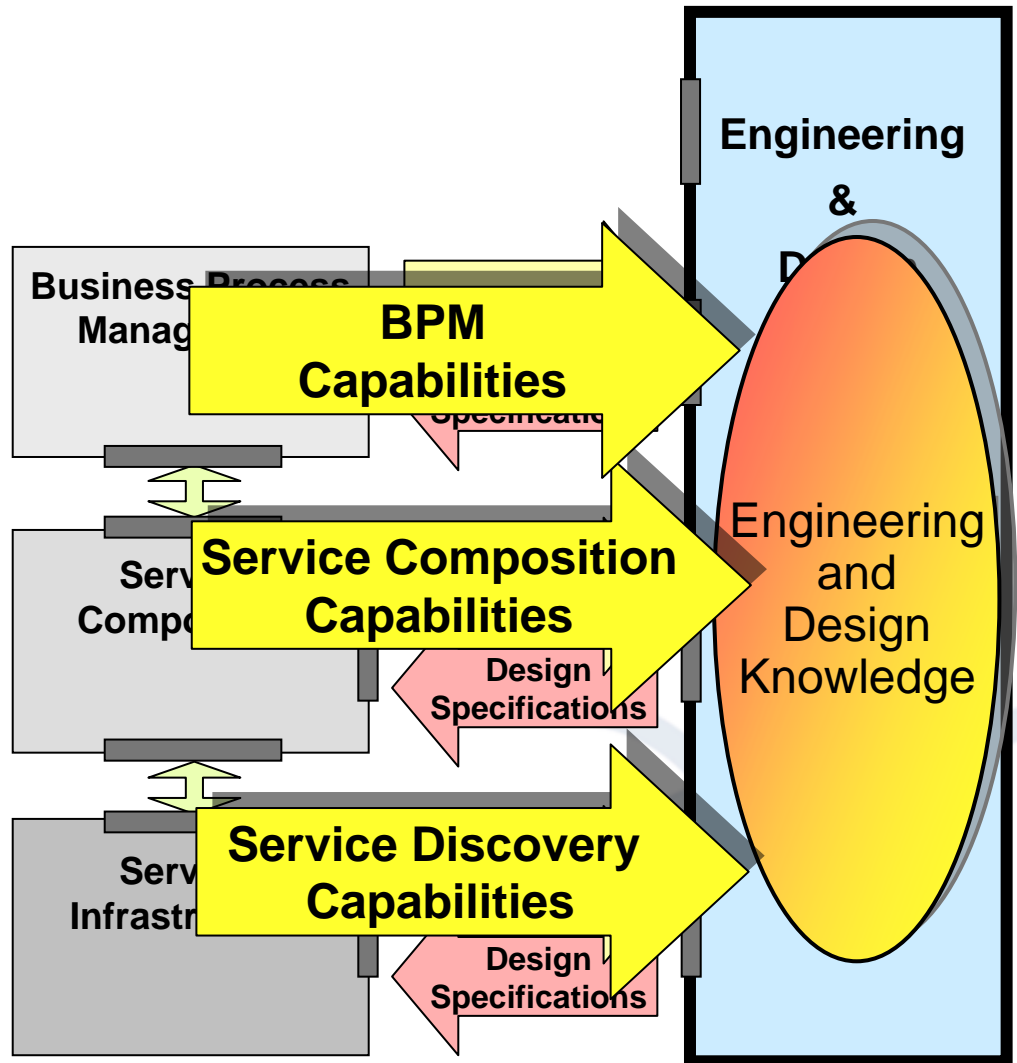
- Example:

Situation-dependent fusion of top-down and bottom-up approaches?



# Challenges for Engineering

- “Solution”:



# S-Cube's Research Framework Summary

**Mastering the challenges requires**

**cross-disciplinary research!**

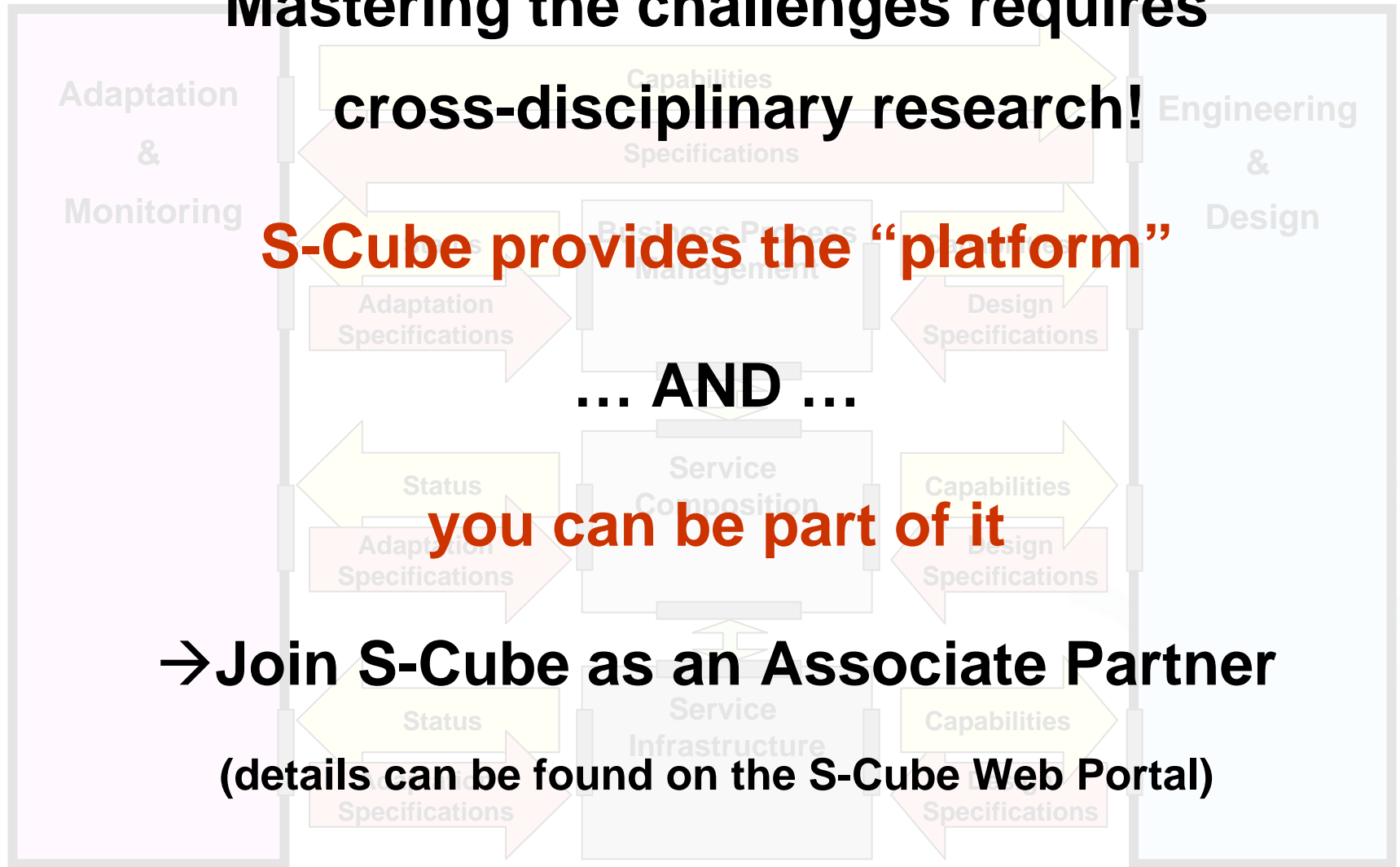
**S-Cube provides the “platform”**

**... AND ...**

**you can be part of it**

**→ Join S-Cube as an Associate Partner**

**(details can be found on the S-Cube Web Portal)**





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[www.s-cube-network.eu](http://www.s-cube-network.eu)