

Products, Projects, and Services; similarities and differences in architecting

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Abstract

Systems Architecting for project, product and service businesses are slightly different. These differences are reflected in the structure of the processes and the role of the architect. We elaborate the similarities in these businesses and the differences.

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July 1, 2011
status: draft
version: 0

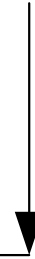
logo
TBD

Projects versus Products

project



product



unique
customer specific

tailored to customer needs

tender-contract-execution
cost \approx project hours

investment by customer

catalogue
generic

"one size fits all"

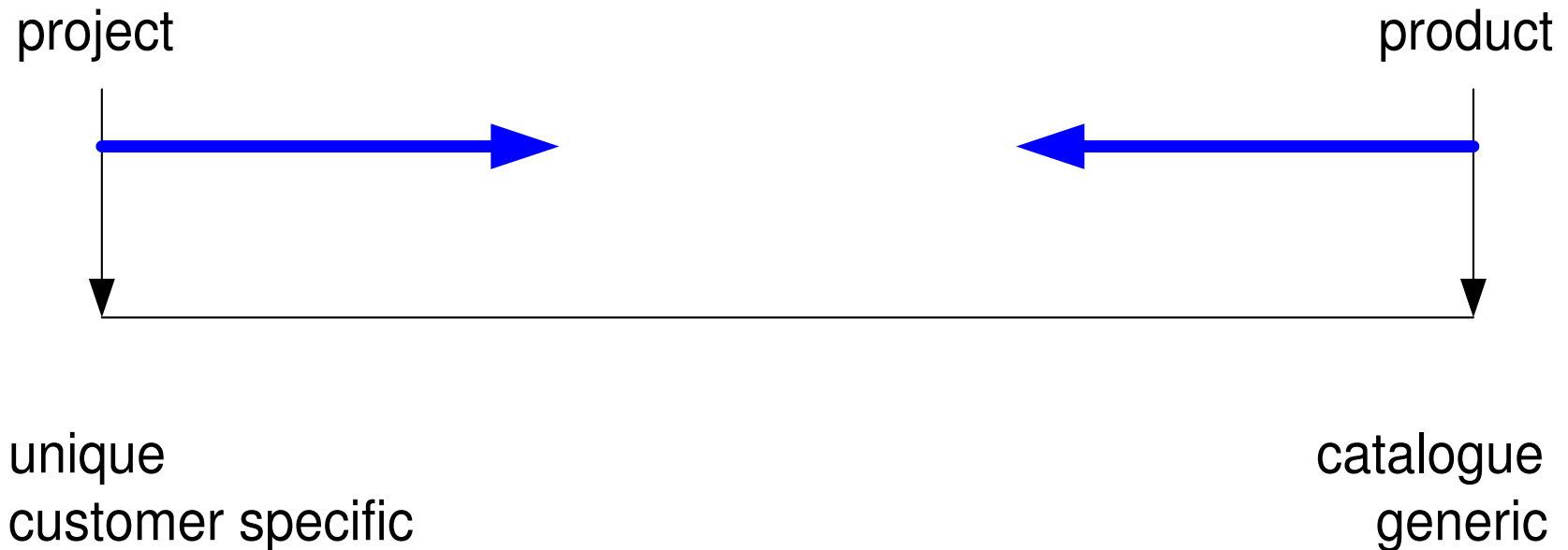
mass production
economy of scale

investment in product design

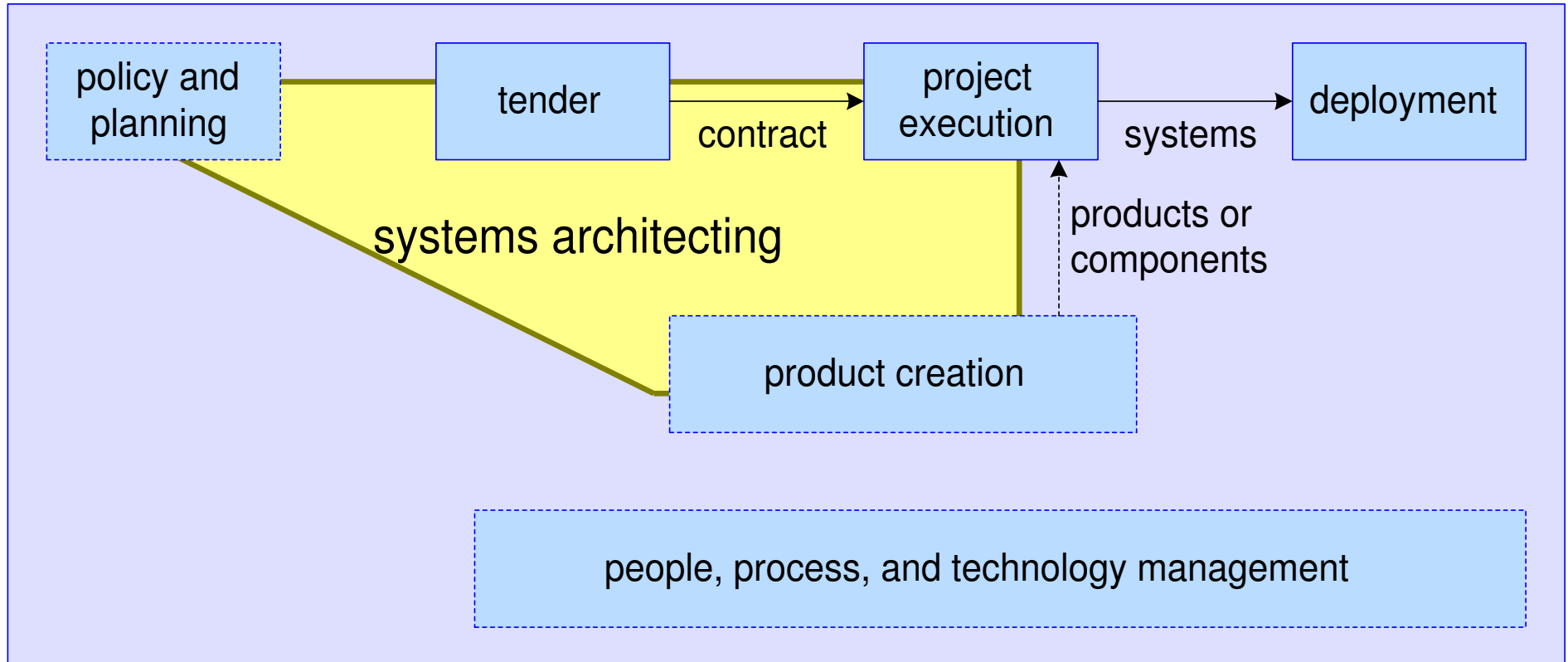
Convergence of Projects and Products

harvest and use
standardized components/products

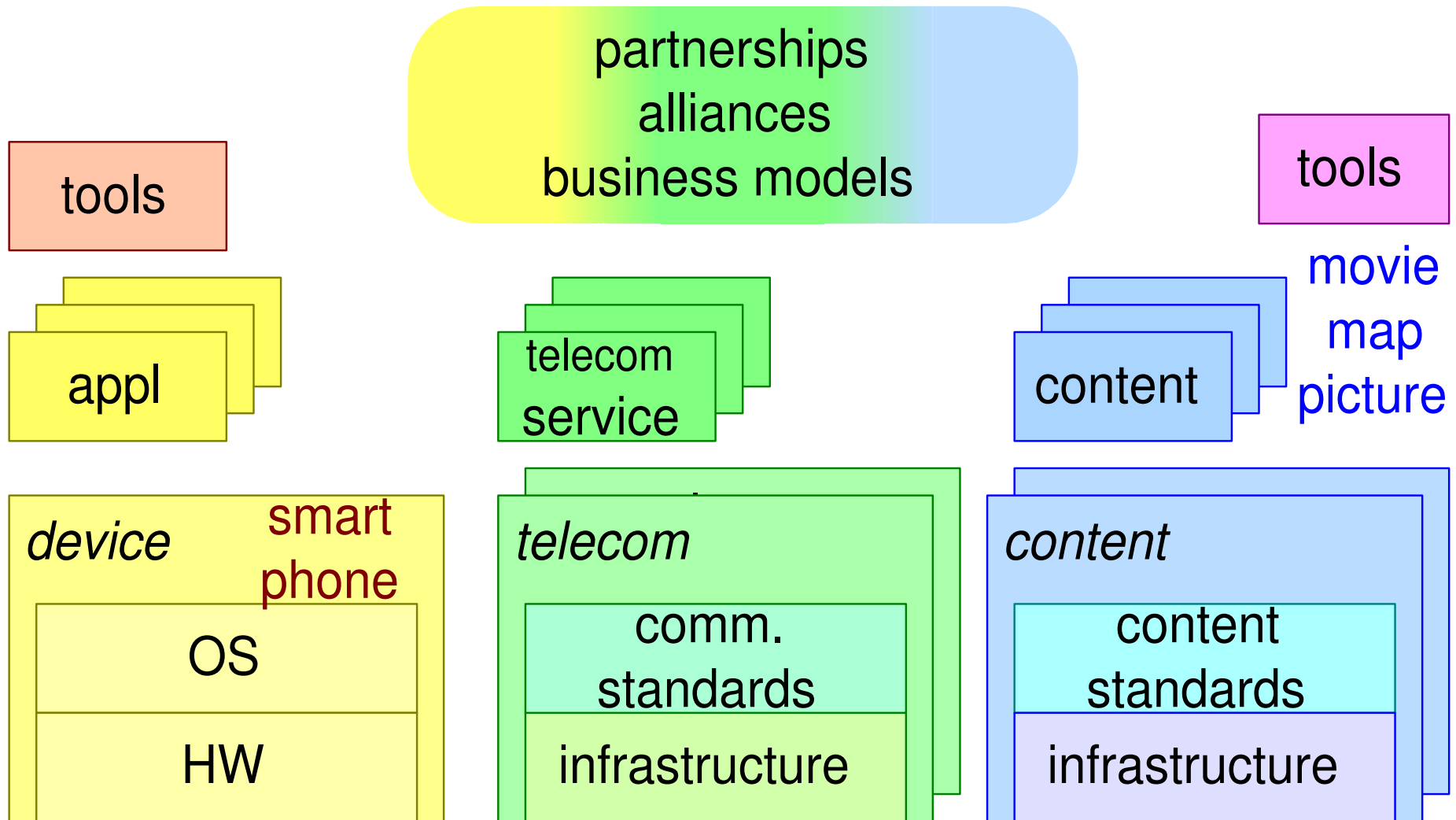
configuration and customization
customer specific at customer site



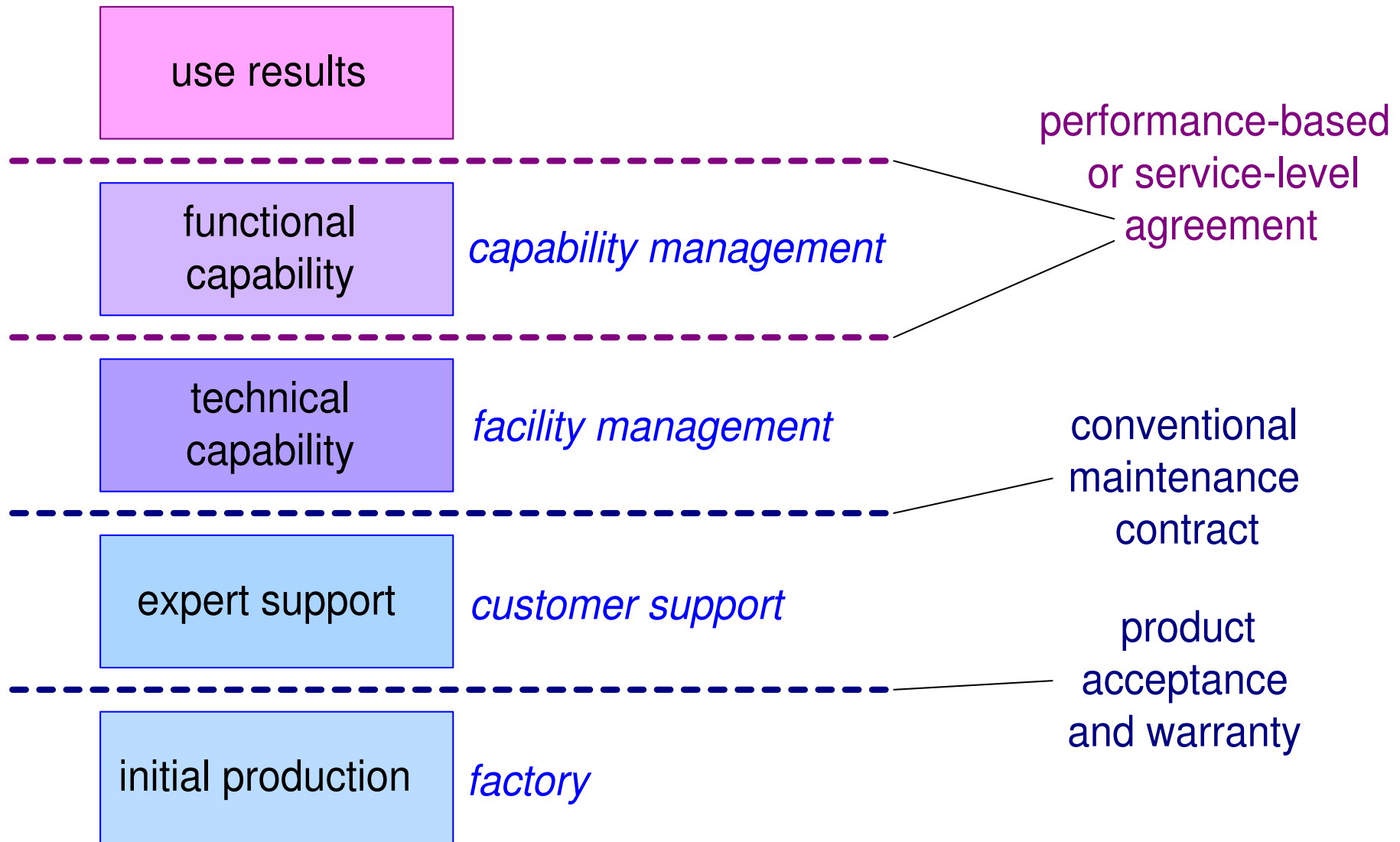
Simplified process diagram for project business



Example of extensive complex of services



Model of operational services



System of Systems

System of Systems

autonomous
different rate of change
many heterogeneous systems
many humans in the loop
geographical distributed



consequences

emergent behavior
lack of understanding and
overview
continuous change
more political and economic
factors