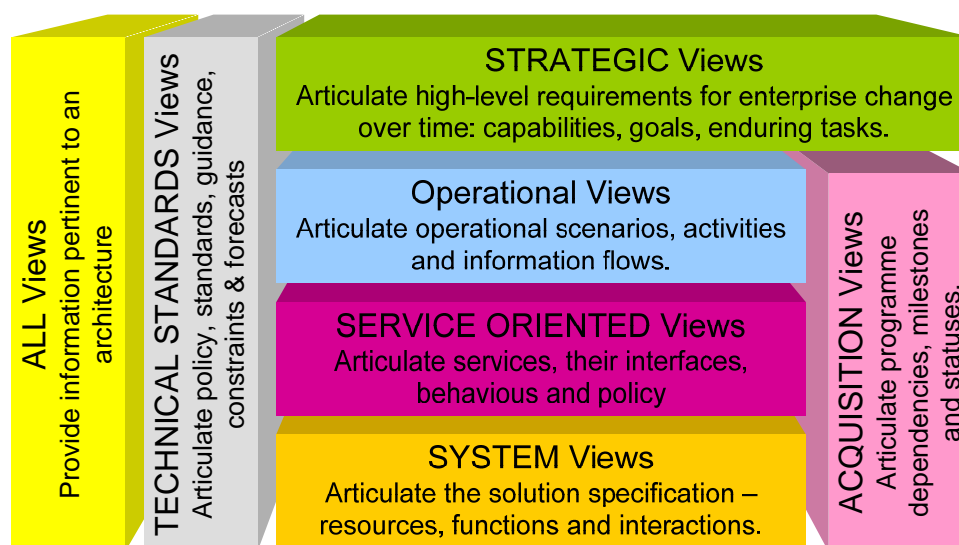


AN INTRODUCTION TO MODAF VIEWS

MODAF architectures are developed as coherent, contiguous models that when viewed as a whole present a complete picture of the enterprise. MODAF defines a rich selection of relationships which can be used to integrate the various architectural elements.

MODAF Viewpoints

Producing an enterprise architecture is rarely the work of one person and it is sometimes useful to be able to logically divide an architecture into domains, each concerned with one aspect of how the enterprise works. This also proves useful when publishing an architecture to different stakeholders. For this reason, MODAF defines a set of standard viewpoints:



How the MODAF Viewpoints relate to each other

This diagram illustrates the relationship between the six MODAF Viewpoints, in particular the way that:

- The Strategic, Operational, and System Viewpoints have a layered relationship.
- The Acquisition Viewpoint sits beneath the Strategic Viewpoint, and has a supporting role across the Operational and System layers.
- The All Views and Technical Standards Viewpoints sit alongside the others in their role of providing a description and ontology for an architecture, plus information on supporting standards.

Each Viewpoint takes a different perspective upon the architectural model; for instance, the Operational Viewpoint considers the operational nodes (logical “actors” that may be realised by one or more resources) that interact in certain ways in order to achieve a desired outcome.

MODAF Views

Each viewpoints consists of several views, which highlighting slightly different details within the particular viewpoint. For instance within the Operational Viewpoint, OV-1 provides a high level conceptual graphic, whilst OV-2 considers the interactions between operational nodes and OV-3 details the information flows.

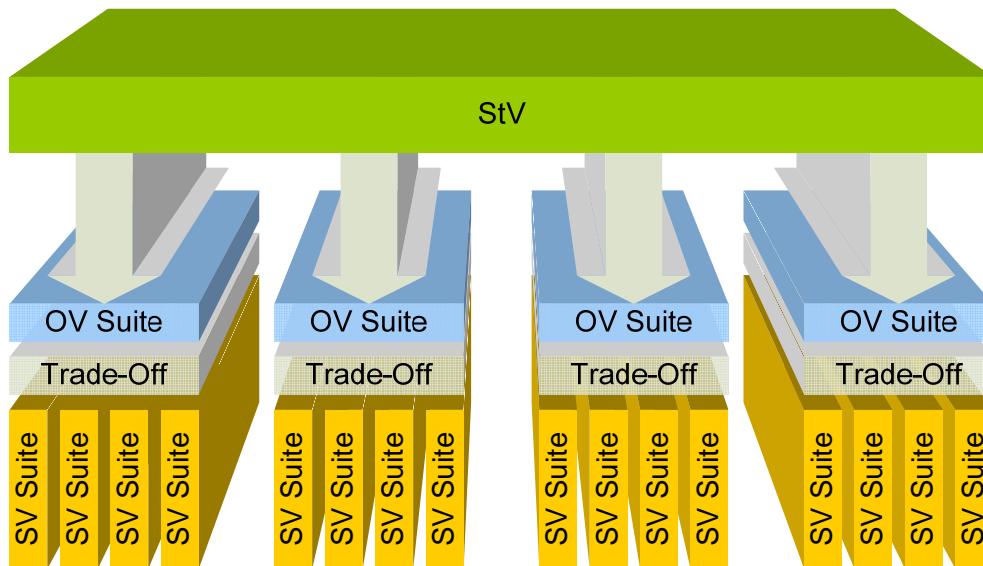
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Whilst the data within each view adds more richness to the overall description of an architecture, it is not necessary for all of the MODAF views to be completed at any particular point in time during the MOD's acquisition lifecycle. Indeed, each group of users within the MOD will have different needs and will only populate and exploit those MODAF Views that are of relevance to them. This means that most of the MOD's Communities of Interest (COIs) will only be dealing with the population and exploitation of a subset of MODAF Views, and few will need to understand and deal with all of the available MODAF Views.

Links to more detailed descriptions of each viewpoint and their constituent views can be found listed in the "Related Pages" section. A link to a high level summary of views may also be found there.

Interactions between Views and Interactions between Architectures

It is expected that the Strategic Views (SVs) cover more than one operational architecture – ie the capabilities defined in the StVs are re-used across a number of architectures. It may also be the case that the architect wishes to conduct an architectural trade study – ie there may be multiple possible solutions for a given requirement specified in the OVs:



The relationship between StVs, OVs and SVs

These relationships are covered in more detail in the guidance for each viewpoint and in the document "MODAF Layers and Viewpoint Linkages"¹.

¹ A link to this document can be found on the related links section of the 'view summaries' page.