



B.I.R.O.

Best Information through Regional Outcomes

A European Public Health Project, DG-SANCO, 2005-2008

WP6: database engine

**From XML to Database
working with Castor**

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WP6 overview

- Purposes of WP6:
 - To create BIRO database
 - To store XML documents produced by each participating region automatically

- Input and output of WP6:
 - WP6 uses the results of WP3 and WP4: BIRO XML Schema, common dataset and data dictionary
 - WP6 will feed the information required by the WP8 (statistical engine)

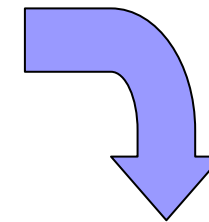


The problem

- To store information from an XML document into a database in a simple and effective way.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>  
-<ECDataExport xmlns:xsi="..."  
  xsi:noNamespaceSchemaLocation="...">  
- <SiteHeader>  
  <SiteIdentification>1</SiteIdentification>  
  <ClinicalSiteName>Ninewells Diabetes Clinic</ClinicalSiteName>  
  <Address1>Ninewells Hospital</Address1>  
  <Address2>Dundee</Address2>  
  <Country>Scotland</Country>  
  ...  
</SiteHeader>  
...
```

XML
persistence



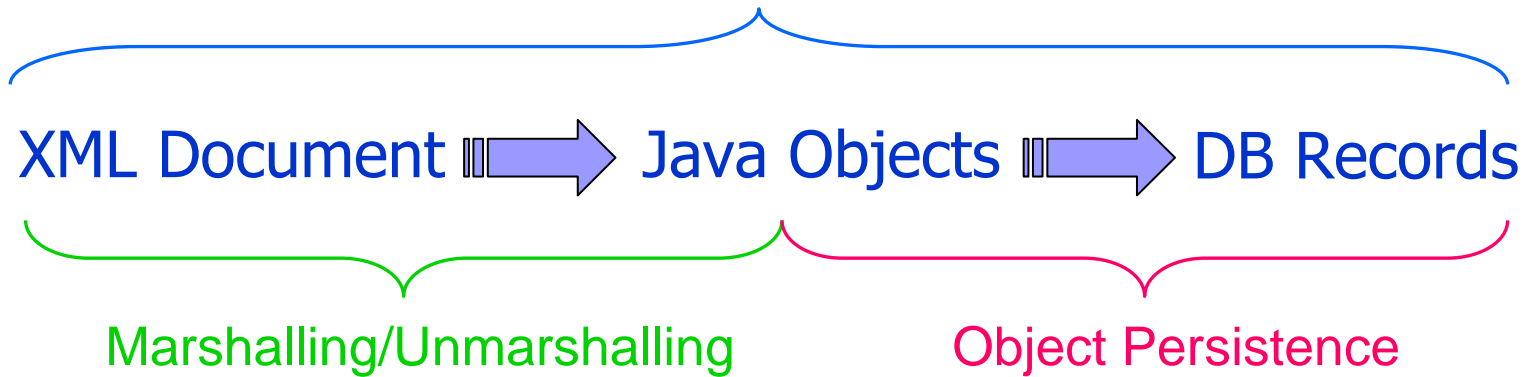
	SiteIdentifica integer	ClinicalSiteName character varying	Address1 character varying	Address2 character varying	country character var
1	1	Ninewells Diabetes Clinic	Ninewells Hospital	Dundee	Scotland



Solution – main idea

- Castor**
- Hibernate

XML Persistence



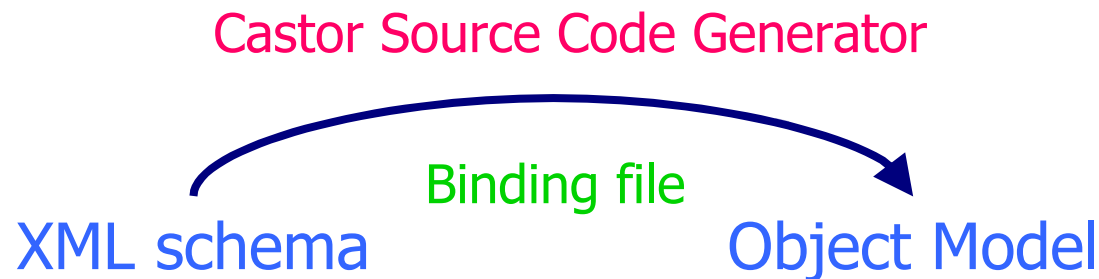
- JAXB
- XMLBeans
- Jibx

- Apache Cayenne
- OJB



Working with Castor

- 1st step: XML Databinding

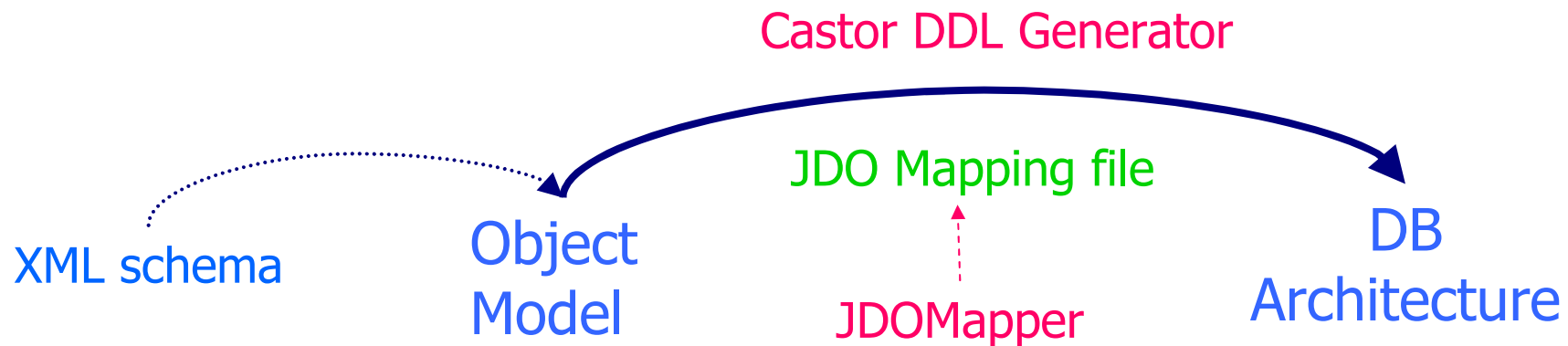


- A Java class is created for each element in XML schema whose type is a complexType.
- Classes are not created for elements whose type is a simpleType.
- User can modify the construction of the object model through a binding file



Working with Castor

- 2nd step: DDL Generation

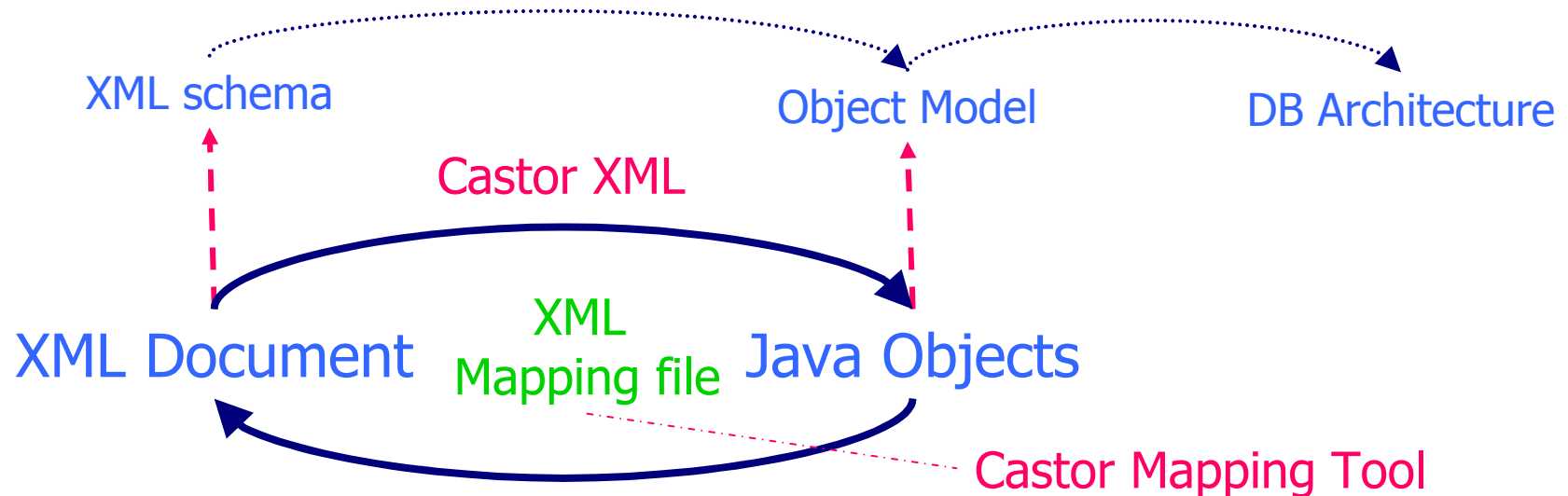


- JDO Mapping file specifies the links between classes and fields in object model and tables and columns in database
- JDO (Java Data Object): high-level API which defines standard methods for Objects persistence
- JDO Mapping file is not optional.
- JDOMapper: 3rd party tool which automatically constructs the basic mapping and provides the user with a GUI for fine tuning



Working with Castor

- 3rd step: unmarshalling

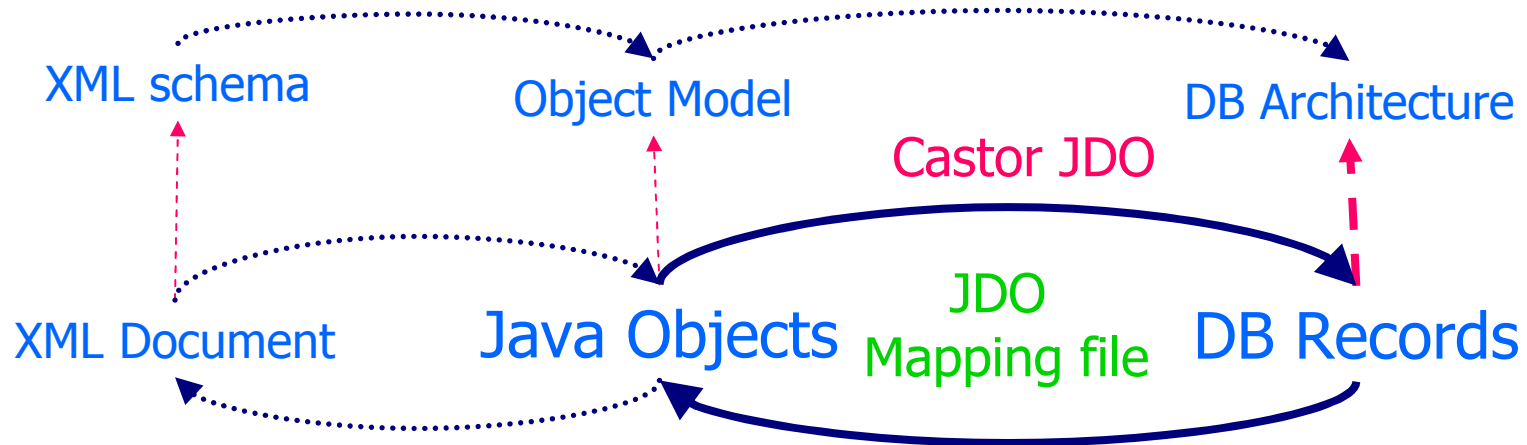


- Mapping file may be necessary in order to have more control over Castor XML behaviour
- It is possible to use the mapping file and Castor default behaviour in conjunction



Working with Castor

- 4th step: objects persistence

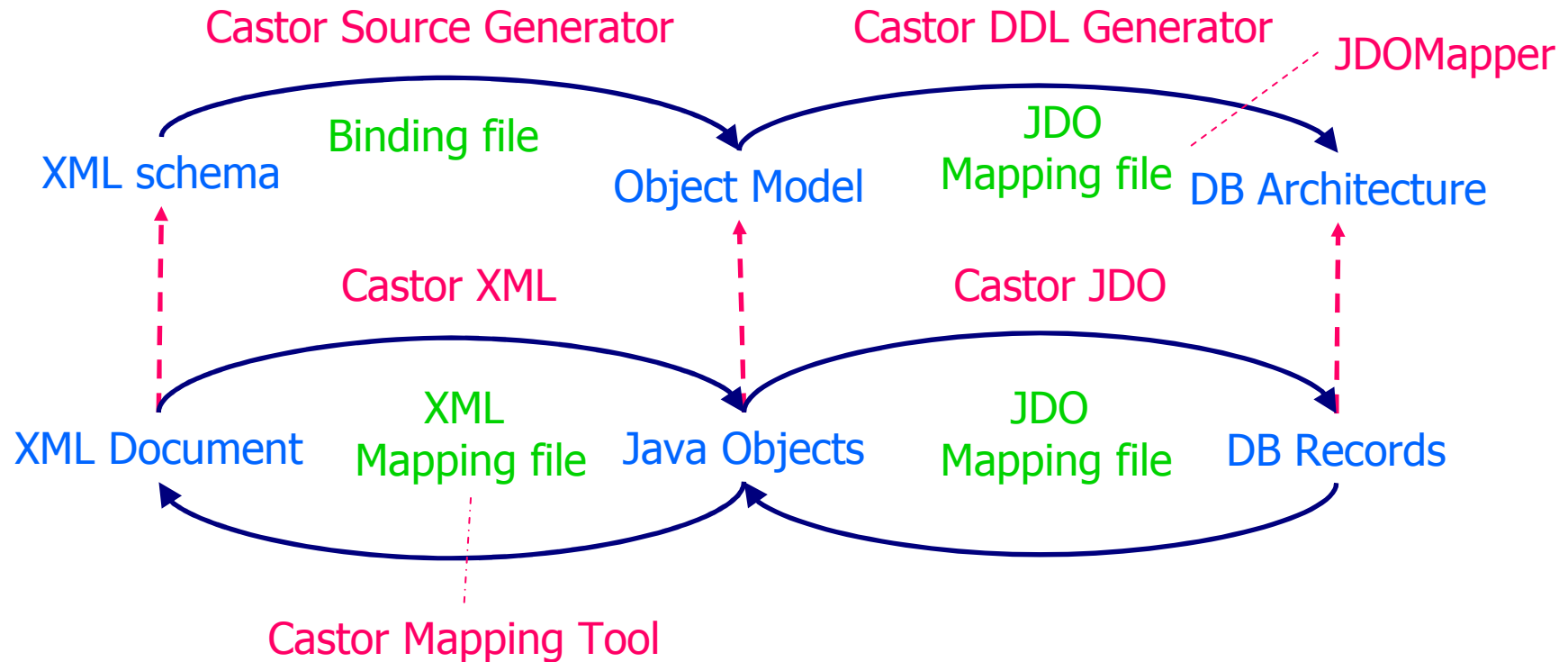


- JDO mapping file is the same used by Castor DDL Generator
- Castor JDO supports one-one and one-many relation types, SQL/Java inheritance, multiple column primary keys and automatic type conversion
- retrieving, updating and deleting the information can be done with OQL queries instead of SQL queries



Working with Castor

- The complete process





Implementation

- We applied the process to “ECDataExtractDefinition.xsd” and “ECClinicalDefinitions.xsd”
- **Source Code Generation:** the binding file is necessary to avoid name collisions
 - ECClinicalDefinitions
 - DataItem
 - Definition → DataItemDefinition
 - Definition → DataItemDescription
 - ECClinicalDefinitions
 - OutcomeIndicator
 - Definition → OutcomeIndicatorDefinition
 - Definition → OutcomeIndicatorDescription
 - ECDataExport
 - Data → PatientData
 - Patient
 - EpisodeData
 - Data