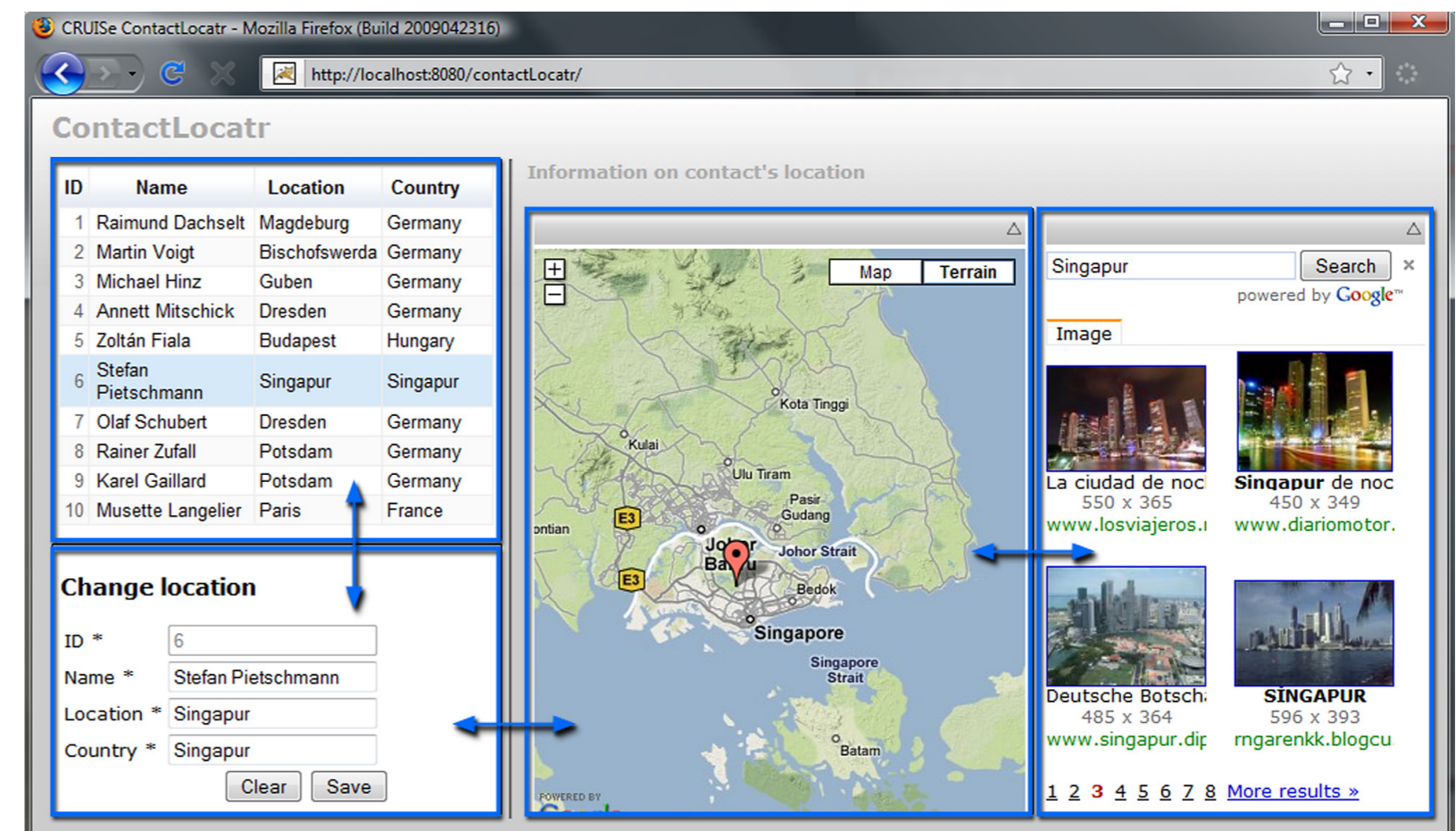


CRUISe: Composition of Rich User Interface Services

MOTIVATION

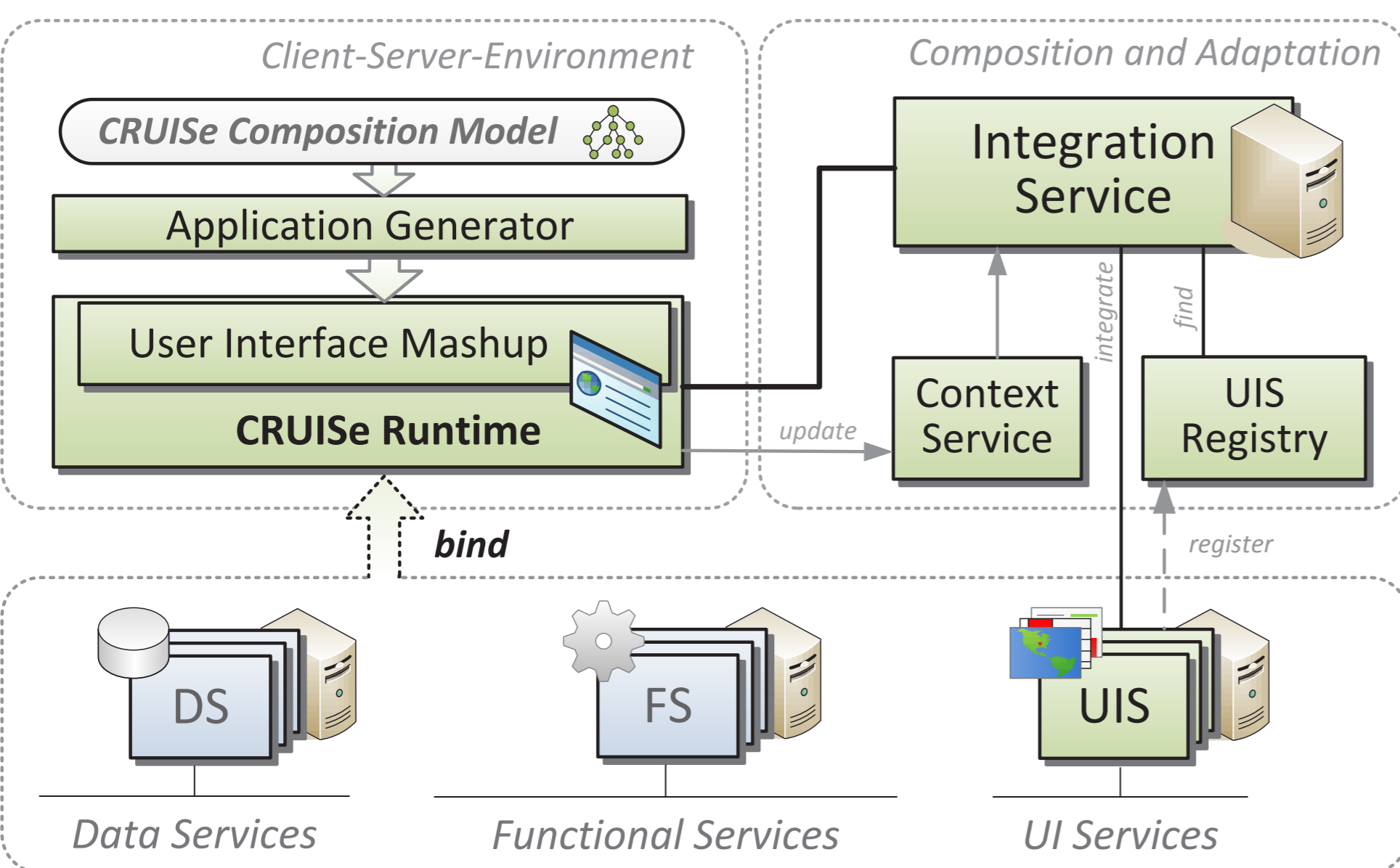
- Web evolution to an application platform: *Programmable Web*
- New paradigms in the back end
 - » (Web) services allow for technology-independence, reusability, and distribution of application logic and persistence
- New problems in the front end
 - » Costly development and maintenance of rich web UIs
 - » Heterogeneous technologies and frameworks hinder interoperability, reusability and sustainability
 - » Heterogeneous user, usage, and device contexts need to be taken into account



CRUISe-based mashup UI

VISION

- Application of the SOA paradigm to the web presentation layer
- Platform-independent modeling of mashup user interfaces
- Dynamic, context-aware UI composition from distributed, generic user interface components



Conceptual overview of the CRUISe system

UI SERVICES

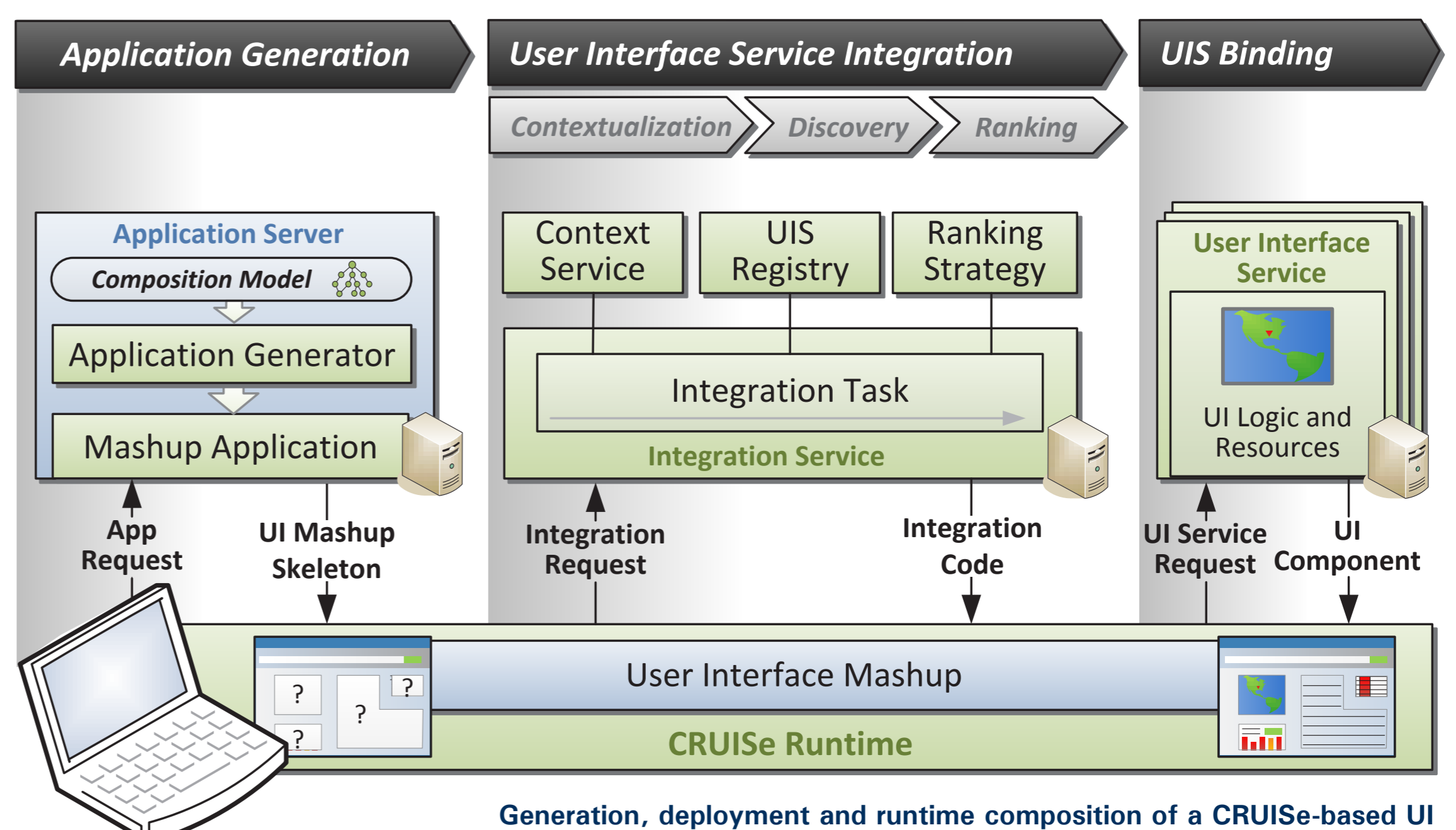
- *User Interface Services* (UIS) provide web UI components and their resources, like images, styles and required libraries
- *User Interface Components* (UIC) are client-side, reusable and configurable web UI parts with a generic JavaScript interface
- UIS and the corresponding UIC are classified and described by a UIS Description Language (UISDL)
- UISDL instances are managed by a UIS Registry

UI MODELING

- Visual modeling of the mashup UI results in the platform-independent *Composition Model*, defining
 - » Layout and configuration of UICs
 - » Data and control flow between UICs
 - » Binding of UICs to back end services
 - » Adaptive behavior of the overall UI
- Model transformation to a platform-specific *UI Mashup Skeleton* by the *Application Generator*
- Skeleton contains "UI hot spots" to be filled by UIS at run time, and is deployed on the server

CONTEXT-AWARE UI COMPOSITION

- Adaptive composition results from the dynamic, context-aware integration of UI components into the skeleton
- Platform-dependent *CRUISe Runtime* controls integration, initialization and event flow between UI components, e.g., for
 - » Thin Server Architecture (TSA)
 - » Eclipse Rich Ajax Platform (RAP)
 - » Human Tasks (BPEL4People, WS-HumanTask)
 - » Web Portals
- UI initialization triggers invocation of the *Integration Service* (either server- or client-side) which starts the *Integration Task*:
 - » Contextualization of the UI integration request with the help of an external *Context Management Service*
 - » Discovery of suitable UIS in a corresponding *UIS Registry*
 - » Selection of UIS based on a customizable *Ranking Strategy*
 - » Platform-specific wrapping of the generic UIC
- Client-side integration of the returned UIC by the Runtime
 - » Loading of required libraries and unique UIC namespacing
 - » Initialization of the UIC via its interface
 - » Transparent loading of additional resources from the UIS
- Runtime also controls dynamic adaptation to the context, incl. adaptive layout, reconfiguration and exchange of UICs



Generation, deployment and runtime composition of a CRUISe-based UI