CS520 Web Programming
Introduction to Web Services

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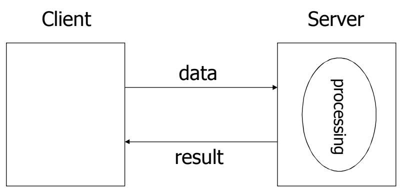
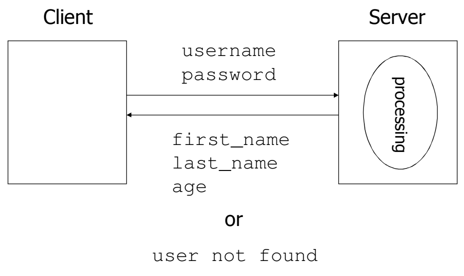
Client-Server Architecture



Client-Server Example



Socket Programming – Client

```
create socket
write string to socket
write string to socket
read string from socket
    if( "user not found" ) return null;
    else
        return new User(
            read string from socket
            read string from socket
            read integer from socket
        )
close socket
```

- Tedious networking code
- Application specific data exchange protocols

Client-Server Interaction as Function Calls

Client `User user = auth(username, password);`

- Automatically translate function calls to network operations
  - Encode and decode parameters and return values
  - Send and receive data between the client and the server

Server
```
User auth(String u, String p)
{ … return user; }
```

RPC and RMI

- Remote Procedure Call (RPC)
  - C
- Remote Method Invocation (RMI)
  - Java

RMI – Server

- Create a service interface
  - Remote interface
  - Declares the methods to be remotely invoked
- Create a service implementation
  - Remote object
  - Implements the methods to be remotely invoked
- Register the service with a RMI registry so a client can find and use this service

RMI – Client

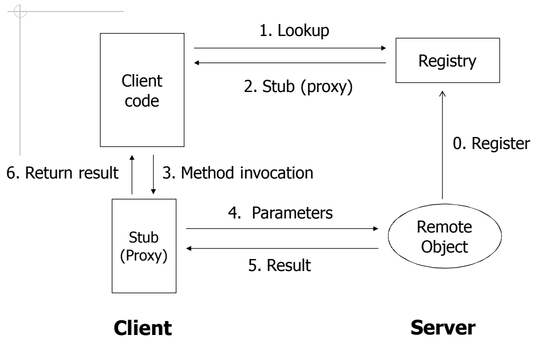
- Connect to the RMI registry
- Look up the service by name
- Invoke the service

RMI Example: AuthService

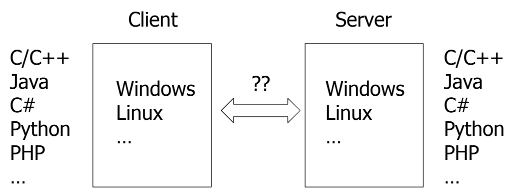
- Shared by both server and client
  - `AuthService`
  - `User`
- Server
  - `AuthServiceImpl`
  - `AuthServiceStartup`
- Client
  - `AuthServiceClient`

Why does `User` *have to implement the* `Serializable` *interface?*
What exactly does `registry.lookup()` *return?*

How RMI Works



Cross Platform RPC

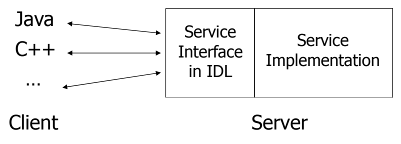


- The client and the server use different languages and/or platforms

How do we define service interface??

CORBA

- Common Object Request Broker Architecture
- Use Interface Definition Language (IDL) to describe service interface
- Provide mappings from IDL to other languages such as Java, C++, and so on.



IDL Example

```
module bank {

  interface BankAccount {

    exception ACCOUNT_ERROR { long errcode; string message;};

    long querybalance(in long acnum) raises (ACCOUNT_ERROR);
    string queryname(in long acnum) raises (ACCOUNT_ERROR);
    string queryaddress(in long acnum) raises (ACCOUNT_ERROR);

    void setbalance(in long acnum, in long balance) raises (ACCOUNT_ERROR);
    void setaddress(in long acnum, in string address) raises (ACCOUNT_ERROR);
  };

};
```

Web Services

- RPC over HTTP
  - Client and server communicate using HTTP requests and responses

Metro

- http://metro.java.net/
- A Java web service library backed by SUN/Oracle
- Implementation of the latest Java web service specifications
- Guaranteed interoperability with .NET Windows Communication Foundation (WCF) web services
- Easy to use

Other Java Web Service Libraries

- Apache Axis2
  - http://axis.apache.org/axis2/java/core/
- Apache CXF
  - http://cxf.apache.org/

Web Service Example: HashService

- HashService
  - `@WebService`
  - `@WebMethod`
- web.xml
- sun-jaxws.xml
  - `<endpoint>`

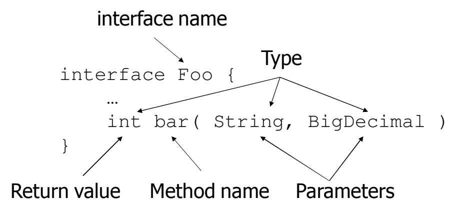
WSDL

- A language for describing web services
  - Where the service is
  - What the service does
  - How to invoke the operations of the service
- Plays a role similar to IDF in CORBA

Sample WSDL Documents

- HashService - http://localhost:8080/ws/hash?wsdl
- Amazon ECS - http://webservices.amazon.com/AWSECommerceService/AWSECommerceService.wsdl

How Do We Describe an API



```
interface Foo {
    …
    int bar( String, BigDecimal )
}
```

How Do We Describe an Web Service API

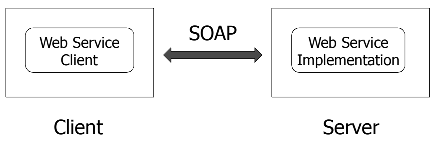
	WSDL
Type	<types>
Parameters Return values	<message> (request and response)
Method name	<operation>
Interface name	<portType>

Web Service Example: Consume HashService

- Generate client side interface and stub from WSDL using Metro's `wsimport`
- Write client code

SOAP

- http://www.w3.org/TR/soap/
- Simple Object Access Protocol



A Sample SOAP Message

```
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8'?>

<SOAP-ENV:Envelope
        xmlns:SOAP-ENV=http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/
        xmlns:xsi=http://www.w3.org/1999/XMLSchema-instance
        xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/1999/XMLSchema">
  <SOAP-ENV:Body>
    <ns1:doSpellingSuggestion xmlns:ns1="urn:GoogleSearch"
        SOAP-ENV:encodingStyle="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/encoding/">
      <key xsi:type="xsd:string">00000000000000000000000000000000</key>
      <phrase xsi:type="xsd:string">britney speers</phrase>
    </ns1:doSpellingSuggestion>
  </SOAP-ENV:Body>
</SOAP-ENV:Envelope>
```

A Sample SOAP RPC Response

```
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8'?>

<SOAP-ENV:Envelope
  xmlns:SOAP-ENV=http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/
  xmlns:xsi=http://www.w3.org/1999/XMLSchema-instance
  xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/1999/XMLSchema">
  <SOAP-ENV:Body>
    <ns1:doSpellingSuggestionResponse xmlns:ns1="urn:GoogleSearch"
       SOAP-ENV:encodingStyle="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/encoding/">
       <return xsi:type="xsd:string">britney spears</return>
    </ns1:doSpellingSuggestionResponse>
  </SOAP-ENV:Body>
</SOAP-ENV:Envelope>
```

A Sample Fault Response

```
<SOAP-ENV:Envelope
  xmlns:SOAP-ENV="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/"
  SOAP-ENV:encodingStyle="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/encoding/">
  <SOAP-ENV:Body>
    <SOAP-ENV:Fault>
      <faultcode>SOAP-ENV:Client</faultcode>
      <faultstring>Client Error</faultstring>
      <detail>
        <m:dowJonesfaultdetails xmlns:m="DowJones">
          <message>Invalid Currency</message>
          <errorcode>1234</errorcode>
        </m:dowJonesfaultdetails>
      </detail>
    </SOAP-ENV:Fault>
  </SOAP-ENV:Body>
</SOAP-ENV:Envelope>
```

SOAP Encoding

- http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/encoding
- Include all built-in data types of *XML Schema Part 2: Datatypes*
  - `xsi` and `xsd` name spaces

SOAP Encoding Examples

```
int a = 10;             <a xsi:type="xsd:int">10</a>

float x = 3.14159;      <x xsi:type="xsd:float">3.14159</x>

String s = "SOAP";      <s xsi:type="xsd:string">SOAP</s>
```

Compound Values and Other Rules

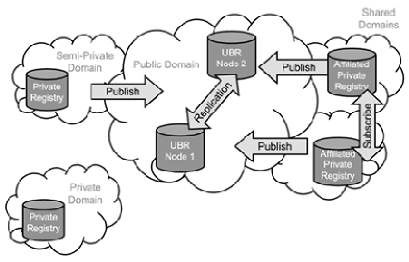
```
<iArray xsi:type=SOAP-ENC:Array SOAP-ENC:arrayType="xsd:int[3]">
   <val>10</val>
   <val>20</val>
   <val>30</val>
</iArray>

<Sample>
   <iVal xsi:type="xsd:int">10</iVal>
   <sVal xsi:type="xsd:string">Ten</sVal>
</Sample>
```

- References, default values, custom types, complex types, custom serialization …

UDDI

- Universal Description Discovery and Integration
- A registry for web services
- A web API for publishing, retrieving, and managing information in the registry

UDDI Registries



Other Web Services

- Differences between web services
  - Language support
    - Single language vs. Language independent
  - Message encoding
    - Text vs. Binary
  - Transport layer
    - HTTP
- *RESTful Web Services*

Problems with SOAP Web Service

- Very complex
  - Based on some very complex specifications
  - Very difficult to create supporting libraries
  - Virtually impossible to use without supporting libraries
- Not very efficient

A RESTful Web Service

Get user with id=1: `/service/user/1`

⬇

```
<user>
    <id>1</id>
    <firstName>John</firstName>
    <lastName>Doe</lastName>
    <email>jdoe1@localhost</email>
</user>
```

Is This Really A Web Service?

- Where is the method call?
- Why does it look like a web *application*?
- Why is it called *RESTful*?

Where Is The Method Call?

- Answer: does it have to be a method call?

HTTP request: `http://<host>/service/user/ 1`

```
User user = getUser( 1 );
```

HTTP response

The downside is that now it's the client's responsibility to turn an HTTP response into a "return value".

Why Does It Look Like A Web Application?

- Answer: it does, and it's a good thing.

  Now all web technologies/languages can be used to create web services (and you don't have to implement complex specifications like SOAP).

Why Is It Called RESTful?

- REpresentational State Transfer
- Introduced by Roy Fielding in his Ph.D. dissertation on network-base software architecture
- Describes the common characteristics of *scalable*, *maintainable*, and *efficient* distributed software systems

The REST Constraints

- Client and server
- Stateless
- Support caching
- Uniformly accessible
- Layered
- (Optional) support code-on-demand

RESTful Web Services

- Web applications for *programs*
  - Generate responses in formats to be read by machines (i.e. XML and JSON) rather than by humans (i.e. HTML)
- Simulate how the static web (the largest REST system) works
  - Use URLs that look like static web pages
  - Utilize HTTP request methods and headers
  - *Stateless*

RESTful Web Service Example

- User Management
  - List
  - Get
  - Add
  - Update
  - Delete

Create a RESTful Web Service

- Identify resources and operations
- Determine resource representation, i.e. data exchange format between the service and the clients
- Design URL and request mapping
- Implement the operations

Resource Representation

- Data format should be easily "understandable" by all programming languages
- XML
  - Already widely in use as a platform independent data exchange format
  - XML parsers are readily available in many languages
- JSON
  - Much more concise than XML
  - Can be used directly in JavaScript

URL Design and Request Mapping Conventions (1)

- Operation: get a user
- URL
  - `/user/{id}` or
  - `/user/get?id={id}`

Path variable based design is usually preferred to request parameter based design.

URL Design and Request Mapping Conventions (2)

- Operation: get a user
- Choose which data format to use
- Solution:
  - `/user/{id}.{format}`
  - Check the `Accept` request header

Checking Accept header is preferred in theory, but the URL based solution is more convenient in practice, e.g. https://dev.twitter.com/docs/api/1.1

URL Design and Request Mapping Conventions (3)

- Map HTTP Request Methods to CRUD operations

`POST` (or `PUT`)	⟷	Create
`GET`	⟷	Retrieve
`PUT` (or `POST`)	⟷	Update
`DELETE`	⟷	Delete

Request Mapping Example

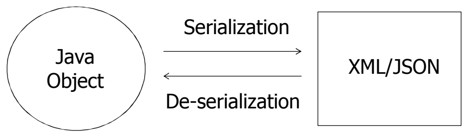
Operation	HTTP Request
Get a user	**`GET /user/1`** `HTTP 1.1`
Delete a user	**`DELETE /user/1`** `HTTP 1.1`

Update a user	**`PUT /user/1`** `HTTP 1.1`
	`{ "id":1,`
	`"firstName":"John",`
	`"lastName":"Doe",`
	`"email":"jdoe@localhost"}`

Service Implementation – Know Your Libraries

- Map HTTP requests to service operations
  - Modern webapp framework like Spring
  - Jersey - https://jersey.java.net/
- Convert between objects and XML/JSON
  - Simple XML Serialization - http://simple.sourceforge.net/
  - Jackson - http://jackson.codehaus.org/

Serialization and Deserialization



Service Implement Example: Simple XML Serialization

- Dependency
  - `org.simpleframework:simple-xml`
- Usage
  - Content type
  - `Serializer` and `Persister`

Service Implementation Example: Jackson

- Dependency
  - `com.fasterxml.jackson.core:jackson-databind`
- Additional view resolver
  - `BeanNameViewerResolver`
- Additional view
  - `MappingJackson2JsonView`

Using Multiple View Resolvers in Spring

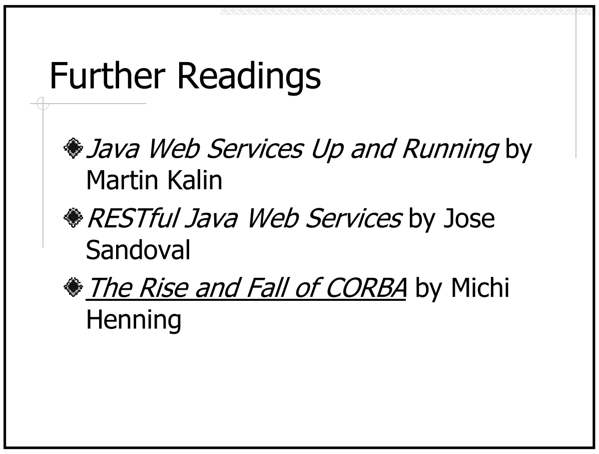
- View resolution order
  - Order of the resolver beans, or
  - Based on the `order` property of the beans
- `InternalResourceViewResolver` should always be the last

Access RESTful Web Service

- Apache HttpClient
  - http://hc.apache.org/httpcomponents-client-ga/
- HttpUrlConnection
  - http://developer.android.com/reference/java/net/HttpURLConnection.html
- Examples:
  - `XmlClient` and `JsonClient`
  - CSNSAA

Summary

- RPC and RMI
- CORBA
  - IDL
- SOAP, WSDL, UDDI
  - Create and consume SOAP web services using Metro
- RESTful web services



Further Readings

- *Java Web Services Up and Running* by Martin Kalin
- *RESTful Java Web Services* by Jose Sandoval
- *The Rise and Fall of CORBA* by Michi Henning