Enterprise Programmering 1

Lesson 06: EJB

Prof. Andrea Arcuri

About these slides

- These slides are just high level overviews of the topics covered in class
- The details are directly in the code comments on the Git repository

Proxy Class Enhancements

- You focus on business logic when writing EJBs
- JEE Container will automatically add functionalities
- Eg, starting/committing transaction for each method invocation
- But also other functionalities are available, and can be activated via @ annotations

@Asynchronous

- A method marked @Asynchronous will be executed on the background in a different thread, and caller returns immediately (not going to wait for method to end)
- Useful for long operations, and when caller does not need to get the result (important thing is the side-effect)
- You do not need to create threads (which is expensive), or manually manage a pool of them... the JEE Container will do it for you automatically by using this annotation

@Schedule

- Let's say you need to do an action one or more times at a certain interval of time
 - eg, check an external resource for updated every 30 seconds
 - eg., send special offers to customers on his/her birthday
- You can implement your own threads and scheduler... or you can just annotate a EJB method with @Schedule
 - Fine grained settings to specify seconds/minutes/hours/etc.

Transactions

- EJB methods are executed in a transaction...
- But what if EJB call a method in another EJB?
 - Would it be in a new transaction?
 - Are the transaction joined in a single one?
- What if EJB method calls another method in the same EJB?
 - This one is actually quite tricky...
- What if an exception is thrown during a EJB method call?
 - Are the changes so far on the EntityManager cache committed?
 - Or everything is rolledback?
- All these cases can be set with annotations...
- ... default settings are going to be fine most of the time, but need to have a clear understanding of when transactions start/end

Git Repository Modules

- NOTE: most of the explanations will be directly in the code as comments, and not here in the slides
- intro/jee/ejb/async
- intro/jee/ejb/time
- intro/jee/ejb/transactions
- Exercises for Lesson 06 (see documentation)