



Computer Engineering Department  
DOS  
Project - Part 1

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## 1. Abstract

This project develops a distributed online bookstore using microservices architecture in order to demonstrate some key ideas in DOS, namely inter-service communication, concurrency management, data consistency, and containerized deployment.

The system constitutes three different Node.js services: Client, Catalog, and Order. These services communicate with each other over REST APIs. The system uses CSV files for data permanence and a mutex-based locking technique in order to reduce race conditions and ensure synchronization. Each service exposes REST endpoints by using Express.js for smooth integration and operation, and deployment is coordinated with Docker Compose.

## 2. Project Objectives

Among the key objectives of the project are:

**1.Design a Microservices Architecture:** Decompose a monolithic bookstore application into a set of loosely coupled services

**2.Inter-Service Communication:** For reliable interactions between services, implement synchronous REST/HTTP queries

**3.Distributed Data Management:** In managing shared resources, consistency in data must be maintained across services

**4.Establish Concurrency Control:** Employ mutex locks to prevent data races due to concurrent updates

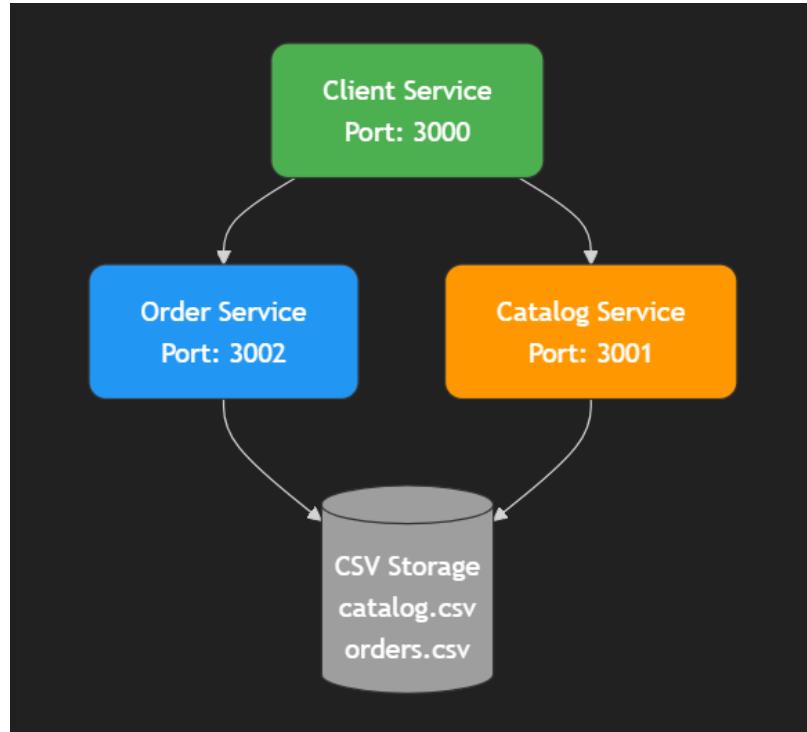
**5.Implement Containerized Services:** Use Docker and Docker Compose for effective, repeatable deployments

**6. Ensure the Reliability of the System:** For enhancing robustness, add error handling, health checks, and graceful failure management.

## 3. System Architecture

### 3.1 Architecture Overview

The system adopts a three-tier microservices architecture, as depicted below:



### 3.2 Service Responsibilities

#### A. Catalog Service (Port 3001)

**Role:** Product Inventory Manager **Responsibilities:**

- Store and update the product catalog.
- Handle search and product detail queries.
- Validate and update inventory levels.
- Enforce mutex-based concurrency control.
- Maintain product records in CSV format.

**Product Model:**

Field	Description
id	Unique identifier
title	Book title
topic	Subject category
quantity	Available stock
price	Unit price



### B. Order Service (Port 3002)

#### Role: Transaction Processor Responsibilities:

- Process purchase requests.
- Communicate with the Catalog Service for inventory validation.
- Perform consistency checks during transactions.
- Record completed orders in orders.csv.
- Handle failures atomically to prevent inconsistencies.

#### Order Model:

Field	Description
customer_name	Customer's name
product_id	Purchased product ID
quantity	Quantity ordered
total_price	Total transaction amount
timestamp	Date and time of order

### C. Client Service (Port 3000)

#### Role: API Gateway and Orchestrator Responsibilities:

- Provide a unified REST interface for external clients.
- Route requests to the Catalog and Order services.
- Aggregate responses and handle errors.
- Implement the API Gateway pattern for simplified access.

### 3.3 Communication Architecture

#### Purchase Workflow:

1. Client submits request to Client Service, which forwards to Order Service.
2. Order Service queries Catalog Service to validate and update inventory.
3. Order Service records the order in CSV upon successful update.
4. Response is propagated back to the client.

#### API Protocol:

- **Protocol:** HTTP
- **Architecture:** REST



- **Format:** JSON
- **Implementation:** Node.js HTTP module

## 4. Detailed Implementation

### 4.1 Catalog Service

#### Key Endpoints:

- GET /: Health check endpoint.
- GET /search?topic=: Search products by topic.
- GET /product/:id: Retrieve product details by ID.
- POST /update: Update product inventory.

localhost:3000

client\_service is running

localhost:3001

catalog\_service is running

localhost:3002

order\_service is running

#### First Required REST API:

```
localhost:3001/search/distributed%20systems
Pretty-print ✓

[
  {
    "id": 1,
    "title": "How to get a good grade in DOS in 40 minutes a day"
  },
  {
    "id": 2,
    "title": "RPCs for Noobs"
  }
]
```

#### Second Required REST API:

```
localhost:3001/info/2
Pretty-print ✓

{
  "title": "RPCs for Noobs",
  "quantity": 3,
  "price": 50
}
```



## **Third Required REST API:**

Last image (at Second API) is the quantity before running the purchase API, that's the result after that for the same catalog id:

The screenshot shows the Postman application interface. At the top, there's a header bar with 'POST' selected as the method, the URL 'http://localhost:3000/purchase/2', and a 'Send' button. Below the header are navigation tabs: 'Docs', 'Params' (which is underlined, indicating it's the active tab), 'Authorization', 'Headers (7)', 'Body', 'Scripts', 'Tests', and 'Settings'. On the right side of the header, there's a 'Cookies' tab. The main content area is titled 'Query Params' and contains a table with columns 'Key', 'Value', and 'Description'. There are two rows in the table, both labeled 'Key' in the 'Key' column and 'Value' in the 'Value' column. To the right of the table, there are buttons for '... Bulk Edit' and 'Description'. Below this, there's a large empty space. At the bottom, there's a navigation bar with tabs for 'Body', 'Cookies', 'Headers (7)', and 'Test Results', followed by a timer icon. The 'Body' tab is currently active. To the right of the tabs, there are status indicators: '200 OK', '215 ms', '336 B', and three small icons. Below the tabs, there are buttons for 'Preview', 'Visualize', and other actions, along with a search bar and a refresh icon.

```
← → ⌂ ⓘ localhost:3001/info/2

Pretty-print ✓

{
  "title": "RPCs for Noobs",
  "quantity": 2,
  "price": 50
}
```



For id=3 :

```
← → ⌂ i localhost:3001/info/3
Pretty-print ✓

{
  "title": "Xen and the Art of Surviving Undergraduate School",
  "quantity": 6,
  "price": 40
}
```

POST <http://localhost:3000/purchase/3> Send

Docs Params Authorization Headers (7) Body Scripts Tests Settings Cookies

Query Params

Key	Value	Description	Bulk Edit
Key	Value	Description	

Body Cookies Headers (7) Test Results ⌂

200 OK • 38 ms • 371 B • ⌂ ⌂ ⌂ ⌂ ⌂ ⌂ ⌂

{ } JSON ▾ Preview Visualize ▾

```
1 {
2   "status": "ok",
3   "order": {
4     "id": 3,
5     "title": "Xen and the Art of Surviving Undergraduate School",
6     "price": 40,
7     "ts": "2025-11-16T09:23:23.117Z"
8   }
9 }
```

```
← → ⌂ i localhost:3001/info/3
Pretty-print ✓

{
  "title": "Xen and the Art of Surviving Undergraduate School",
  "quantity": 5,
  "price": 40
}
```



```
catalog | catalog_service listening on port 3001
order   | order_service listening on port 3002
client  | client_service listening on port 3000
client  | Info: { title: 'RPCs for Noobs', quantity: 5, price: 50 }
client  | Info: {
client   |     title: 'Xen and the Art of Surviving Undergraduate School',
client   |     quantity: 8,
client   |     price: 40
client   |
client   |     }
order   | bought book RPCs for Noobs
client  | Purchase response: {
client   |     status: 'ok',
client   |     order: {
client   |         id: 2,
client   |         title: 'RPCs for Noobs',
client   |         price: 50,
client   |         ts: '2025-11-15T12:04:32.859Z'
client   |     }
client   |
client   |     }
client  | Info: { title: 'RPCs for Noobs', quantity: 4, price: 50 }
client  | Info: { title: 'RPCs for Noobs', quantity: 4, price: 50 }
order   | bought book RPCs for Noobs

client  | Purchase response: {

client  |     status: 'ok',
client  |     order: {
client  |         id: 2,
client  |         title: 'RPCs for Noobs',
client  |         price: 50,
client  |         ts: '2025-11-15T12:04:57.454Z'
client  |     }
client  |
client  |     }
client  | Info: { title: 'RPCs for Noobs', quantity: 3, price: 50 }
order   | bought book Xen and the Art of Surviving Undergraduate School
```



```

client | Purchase response: {

client |     status: 'ok',
client |     order: {
client |         id: 3,
client |         title: 'Xen and the Art of Surviving Undergraduate School',
client |         price: 40,
client |         ts: '2025-11-15T12:05:16.300Z'
client |
client |     }
client |     Info: {
client |         title: 'Xen and the Art of Surviving Undergraduate School',
client |         quantity: 7,
client |         price: 40
client |
client |     }
order | bought book Xen and the Art of Surviving Undergraduate School
client | Purchase response: {
client |     status: 'ok',
client |
client |     order: {
client |         id: 3,
client |         title: 'Xen and the Art of Surviving Undergraduate School',
client |         price: 40,
client |         ts: '2025-11-15T12:05:34.156Z'
client |
client |     }
client |     ts: '2025-11-15T12:05:34.156Z'
client |
client |     }
client |     Info: {
client |         title: 'Xen and the Art of Surviving Undergraduate School',
client |         quantity: 6,
client |         price: 40
client |
client |     }
order | bought book RPCs for Noobs
client |     title: 'Xen and the Art of Surviving Undergraduate School',
client |     quantity: 6,
client |     price: 40
client |
client |     }
order | bought book RPCs for Noobs

client | Purchase response: {
client |     status: 'ok',
client |     order: {
client |         id: 2,
client |         title: 'RPCs for Noobs',
client |         price: 50,
client |         ts: '2025-11-16T09:21:03.168Z'
client |
client |     }
client |     }
order | bought book Xen and the Art of Surviving Undergraduate School
client | Purchase response: {
client |     status: 'ok',
client |     order: {
client |         id: 3,
client |         title: 'Xen and the Art of Surviving Undergraduate School',
client |         price: 40,
client |         ts: '2025-11-16T09:23:23.117Z'
client |
client |     }
client |     }

```



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**Mutex Lock Implementation:** A per-product mutex ensures serialized access during updates, preventing concurrent modifications:

```
let locks = {};

async function updateWithLock(productId, newQty, newPrice) {
    while (locks[productId]) await wait(10);
    locks[productId] = true;

    try {
        let product = readFromCSV(productId);
        product.quantity = newQty;
        product.price = newPrice;
        writeToCSV(product);
        return { success: true };
    } finally {
        delete locks[productId];
    }
}
```

#### 4.2 Order Service

##### Purchase Logic:



```
async function processPurchase(customer, productId, qty) {
    const product = await catalog.getProduct(productId);
    if (!product) return fail("Product not found");

    if (product.quantity < qty)
        return fail(`Available: ${product.quantity}`);

    const total = product.price * qty;

    const update = await catalog.update({
        id: productId,
        quantity: product.quantity - qty,
        price: product.price
    });

    if (!update.success) return fail("Inventory update failed");

    const orderId = generateOrderId();
    recordOrder({ orderId, customer, productId, qty, total, timestamp: now() });

    return success(orderId, total, product.title);
}
```

### Guarantees:

- Inventory updates and order recordings are atomic.
- No partial transactions; failures roll back changes.

### 4.3 Client Service

Implements the API Gateway pattern, exposing unified endpoints such as:

- /search
- /product/:id
- /purchase  
(which shown in 4.1)

Requests are proxied via HTTP to the appropriate backend services.



#### 4.4 CSV-Based Persistence

##### catalog.csv Example:

```
catalog.csv X
catalog_service > catalog.csv
1 id,title,topic,quantity,price
2 1,How to get a good grade in DOS in 40 minutes a day,distributed systems,5,30
3 2,RPCs for Noobs,distributed systems,5,50
4 3,Xen and the Art of Surviving Undergraduate School,undergraduate school,8,40
5 4,Cooking for the Impatient Undergrad,undergraduate school,8,35
6 |
```

##### orders.csv Example:

```
customer_name,product_id,quantity,total_price,timestamp
John Doe,1,2,60,2024-11-15T10:30:45Z
```

**Advantages:** Simplicity and portability. **Limitations:** Performance degradation under high concurrency; lacks full ACID compliance.

## 5. Configuration and Deployment

### 5.1 Multi-Layer Configuration

Configuration follows a priority order:

1. Environment variables.
2. config.json file.
3. Hardcoded defaults.

### 5.2 Dockerfiles

Each service uses a standardized Dockerfile:

```
FROM node:18-alpine
WORKDIR /app
COPY package*.json .
RUN npm install
COPY . .
EXPOSE 3000
CMD ["node", "server.js"]
```



### 5.3 Docker Compose Structure

```
version: '3'
services:
  catalog:
    build: ./catalog_service
    ports: ["3001:3001"]

    order:
      build: ./order_service
      depends_on: [catalog]
      ports: ["3002:3002"]
      environment:
        - CATALOG_URL=http://catalog:3001

  client:
    build: ./client_service
    depends_on: [catalog, order]
    ports: ["3000:3000"]
```

Services communicate via Docker's internal DNS (e.g., catalog, order, client).

## 6. Conclusion

This project successfully provides a functional, microservices-based distributed online bookstore, implementing all the key DOS principles: mutex-driven concurrency control, coordinated distributed transactions, RESTful inter-service communication, data persistence, and containerized deployment. Its modular design encourages scalability and accurately reflects production-grade distributed systems, as well as a foundation for further improvements.

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GitHub Repo. Link : [https://github.com/Ameed-salameh/project\\_Distributed-and-Operating-Systems\\_part1](https://github.com/Ameed-salameh/project_Distributed-and-Operating-Systems_part1)