

Software Engineering 2: "PowerEnJoy"

Code Inspection Document

Version 1.0

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1 Classes assigned to the group

Source: http://mirror.nohup.it/apache/ofbiz/apache-ofbiz-16.11.01.zip

- \bullet ../apache-ofbiz-16.11.01/framework/common/src/main/java/org/apache/ofbiz/common/UrlServletHelper.java
- \bullet ../apache-ofbiz-16.11.01/framework/minilang/src/main/java/org/apache/ofbiz/minilang/method/envops/SetCalendar.java

2 Functional role of assigned set of classes

The inspection phase started with an attempt to understand the goal of the Apache OFBiz Framework. Given the lack of javadoc all our understanding has been based on official framework wiki pages and a careful reading of the code itself which contains a little amount of short comments.

After some researches, it turns out that the Open For Business Framework is intended to speed-up the development of FOD (*Forms-Over-Data*) web-based applications where most components (i.e. forms, views and data entities) are defined by XML files that matches the "minilang" schema.

Each element of the schema maps to a minilang statement or method which is actually implemented in Java extending different appropriate parent classes. To extend the built-in operations of minilang, Groovy scripts inclusion is supported.

2.1 UrlServletHelper class

File UrlServletHelper.java
Part of org.apache.ofbiz.common package.

UrlServletHelper is a container of static methods which handles URL to resource mapping implementing parsing and validation of the HTTP query string. It also handles resource mapping in multi-tenant environments where the same app works on different datasources.

2.1.1 UrlServletHelper constructor

private UrlServletHelper()

Default private constructor prevents this class from being instantiated outside of its context. There exist no calls to this constructor in the analyzed file version.

2.1.2 setRequestAttributes method

public static void setRequestAttributes(ServletRequest request, Delegator
delegator, ServletContext servletContext)

Populates the fields in the HttpServletRequest extension of the passed request object. It also updates fields in the servletContext in case multi-tenant mode is enabled to perform tenant selection based on URL domain name.

2.1.3 setViewQueryParameters method

public static void setViewQueryParameters(ServletRequest request, String-Builder urlBuilder)

Parses the http querystring in request token by token and builds a new URL containing all parameters needed by the view to show results according to passed filters.

2.1.4 checkPathAlias method

public static void checkPathAlias(ServletRequest request, ServletResponse response, Delegator delegator, String pathInfo)

Checks whether exists a resource that is reachable by the alias specified in pathInfo. If it exists the request is forwarded to the right resource otherwise if the specified path belongs to a resource that needs to be reached by an alias, an HTTP 404 Not Found error is returned to the client. If none of the previous conditions are met, nothing changes and the method returns gracefully.

2.1.5 invalidCharacter method

public static String invalidCharacter(String str)

Removes and trims invalid or dangerous characters from the input str.

2.2 SetCalendar class

File SetCalendar.java

Part of org.apache.ofbiz.minilang.method.envops package.

In minilang, the SetCalendar operation extends the Set operation providing the ability of adjusting the input timestamp by a specified timespan. It accepts as input data either a mix of expressions and constants or a script. This class actually implements those mechanics by parsing the corresponding <set-calendar/> minilang XML element and attributes, than adding some parameters validation.

Examples of set-calendar operation usage:

```
<set-calendar field="tomorrowStamp" from-field="nowTimestamp" day="1"/>
<set-calendar field="yesterdayStamp" from-field="nowTimestamp" day="-1"/>
```

2.2.1 autoCorrect method

private static boolean autoCorrect(Element element)

Provides compatibility with old minilang schema versions for the element. A comment states that this method should be deprecated after the transition to the new schema version.

2.2.2 parseInt method

private static int parseInt(String intStr)

Addresses a compatibility issue with older Java versions.

2.2.3 SetCalendar constructor

public SetCalendar(Element element, SimpleMethod simpleMethod) throws Mini-LangException

Parses and validates the XML element which associated operation statement should be implemented by this instance. If validation succeeds all local properties are populated interpreting attributes value.

2.2.4 exec method

public boolean exec(MethodContext methodContext) throws MiniLangException

Actually executes the operation associated to set-calendar statement. Sets the value of the field either to the result of a script, the evaluation of an expression, the value of a constant or its default. In addition to the standard minilang set statement, it also manages to adjust the resulting timestamp by interpreting other set-calendar attributes.

2.2.5 toString method

public String toString()

Returns an XML string containing a <set-calendar/> element equivalent to the current instance of the set-calendar operation statement.

2.3 SetCalendarFactory class

File SetCalendar.java

Part of org.apache.ofbiz.minilang.method.envops package.

Implements a factory pattern that generates SetCalendar instances by implementing Factory<T> interface.

2.3.1 createMethodOperation method

public SetCalendar createMethodOperation(Element element, SimpleMethod simpleMethod) throws MiniLangException

Returns an instance of SetCalendar which implements the simpleMethod described in the minilang XML element.

2.3.2 getName method

public String getName()

Returns the name of minilang XML element that this factory provides. In this override the returned String constantly equals to "set-calendar".

3 List of issues found by applying the checklist

3.1 Naming Conventions

- 1 Taking into account what is stated in the previous section of this document, both UrlServletHelper.java and SetCalendar.java contain classes, variables, methods and constants that have meaningful names and do what their names suggest.
- 2 There is no one-character variable used for non temporary purpose in both Url-ServletHelper.java and SetCalendar.java.
- 3 UrlServletHelper.java class name is a properly formatted noun: mixed case with the first letter of each word in capitalized.

 SetCalendar.java classes names are not nouns, even if they are properly formatted.
- 4 No interface is present in both files.
- 5 In UrlServletHelper.java the method invalidCharacter (line 205) is not a verb, even if it is properly formatted: mixed case with the first letter in lowercase and all the remaining words in the variable name have their first letter capitalized. In SetCalendar.java methods names are properly formatted verbs.
- 6 Both UrlServletHelper.java and SetCalendar.java attributes names are properly formatted: mixed case with the first letter in lowercase and all the remaining words in the variable name have their first letter capitalized.
- 7 In UrlServletHelper.java the constant module (line 46) is not written using all uppercase.
 - In SetCalendar. java the constant module (line 50) does not match the convention.

3.2 Indention

- 8 Four spaces are consistently used for indentation in both files.
- 9 No tabs are used to indent in both files.

3.3 Braces

- 10 Both files follows the "Kernighan and Ritchie" style.
- 11 All if, while, do-while, try-catch, and for statements that have only one statement to execute are surrounded by curly braces.

3.4 File Organization

- 12 UrlServletHelper.java does not contain a blank line between lines 152 and 153. SetCalendar.java properly contains blank lines and comments to separate sections.
- 13 In UrlServletHelper.java sixteen lines contain more than 80 characters, but less than 120: line 18 (81 characters), 61 (105), 62 (106), 67 (90), 68 (99), 69 (96), 71 (98), 72 (83), 82 (93), 86 (86), 91 (97), 104 (109), 108 (105), 162 (88), 190 (82), 194 (90).
 - In SetCalendar.java a lot of lines contain more than 80 characters, but less than 120: lines 18 (81 characters), 82 (89), 105 (93), 108 (111), 109 (117), 113 (89), 114 (94), 115 (86), 116 (104), 123 (87), 126(99), 132 (90), 136 (94), 138 (90), 139 (92), 140 (88), 141 (90), 142 (94), 143 (94), 144 (92), 145 (111), 146 (107), 147 (83), 148 (97), 156 (83), 158 (109), 202 (87), 205 (90), 208 (86), 211 (88),214 (92), 217 (92), 220 (90), 223 (117), 235 (85), 237 (81), 239 (82), 241 (83), 243 (82), 245 (114), 248 (83), 258 (112), 303 (84), 306 (82), 324 (82), 326 (119).
- 14 In UrlServletHelper.java six lines contain more than 120 characters: line 50 (121 characters), 58 (133), 63 (147), 87 (135), 153 (127), 191 (127).
 In SetCalendar.java seven lines contain more than 120 characters: lines 46 (167 characters), 110 (149), 111 (153), 134 (138), 183 (135), 192 (143), 200 (149).

3.5 Wrapping Lines

- 15 In UrlServletHelper.java line breaks of lines from 160 to 164 and from 189 to 192 does not occur after a comma or an operator.

 In SetCalendar.java line breaks do occur after a comma or an operator.
- 16 In both files higher-level breaks are used.
- 17 In both files new statements are aligned with the beginning of the expression at the same level as the previous line.

3.6 Comments

- 18 In UrlServletHelper.java only setRequestAttributes is adequately commented, other parts of the class contain no comment or just a very brief comment.

 In SetCalendar.java only a few pieces of code are commented: autoCorrect and parseInt methods.
- 19 No commented out code is present in both files.

3.7 Java Source Files

20 In UrlServletHelper.java there is only one public class.
In SetCalendar.java there are two public classes: SetCalendar and SetCalendar-Factory.

- 21 In both files the first class is the public class, or one of the public classes.
- 22 In both files there are neither interfaces nor javadoc (see next point for further details on javadoc).
- 23 In UrlServletHelper.java there is no javadoc.
 In SetCalendar.java javadoc covers only the two classes statements.

3.8 Package and Import Statements

24 In both files the first non-comment statements are packages, followed by import statements.

3.9 Class and Interface Declarations

25 In UrlServletHelper.java the order is respected, even if not all required points are satisfied due to the lack of some of the listed elements. In particular no variable can be found outside the methods.

In SetCalendar.java the order is not respected, this is the actual class order:

- Class documentation comment;
- Class statement:
- Static final attribute (module);
- Methods (autoCorrect and parseInt);
- Class private variables;
- Constructor;
- Methods (exec and toString);
- Factory class and methods.
- 26 In UrlServletHelper.java after the first method, which is a private constructor, there are three methods all requiring a ServletRequest and whose work imply managing that request (i.e. handling resource mapping parsing and validation of the HTTP query string). Differently from the previous ones, the last method just operates on a string.
 - In SetCalendar.java methods seem to be divided in Coverride methods and in non-Coverride methods: the only non-Coverride method is placed before attributes definition, while all the others are placed after constructor.
- 27 In UrlServletHelper.java there are the following long methods: setViewQuery-Parameters (61 lines), checkPathAlias (50 lines) and invalidCharacter (77 lines).
 - In SetCalendar.java there are the following long methods: exec (112 lines) and toString (54 lines).

3.10 Initialization and Declarations

28 In both files all variables and class members are of the correct type and have the right visibility.

- 29 In UrlServletHelper.java the variable httpRequest (line 154) is used only in the else branch of line 186, so it should have been declared within that scope. The variable httpResponse (line 155) is used only in the if, line 193, which is within the else branch of line 186, so it should have been declared within that scope. In SetCalendar.java the variable fromStamp (line 173) is assigned at line 200, so it should be declared within the try scope.
- 30 In UrlServletHelper.java constructors are never required.
 In SetCalendar.java constructors are called when a new object is desired.
- 31 In UrlServletHelper.java all the object are initialized before being used. In SetCalendar.java all the object that are not immediately initialized are initialized before being used.
- 32 In UrlServletHelper.java all variables are immediately initialized.

 In SetCalendar.java all variables are initialized when they are declared if their value does not depend from a computation.
- 33 In UrlServletHelper.java in nine cases declarations are made in the middle of the block: line 62, 63, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 102, 176.

 In SetCalendar.java in sixteen cases declarations are made in the middle of the block: line 63, 70, 119, 124, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 225, 233.

3.11 Method Calls

- 34 In both files all parameters are presented in correct order.
- 35 In both files the correct method is always called.
- 36 In both files all method returned values are used properly.

3.12 Arrays

- 37 No array is present in either UrlServletHelper.java or SetCalendar.java.
- 38 No array is present in either UrlServletHelper.java or SetCalendar.java.
- 39 No array is present in either UrlServletHelper.java or SetCalendar.java.

3.13 Object Comparisons

- 40 In UrlServletHelper.java the == operator is used only in line 171 to make a comparison with null.
 - In SetCalendar.java the == operator is used in lines 168, 185, 188, 194, 197 to make a comparison with null.

3.14 Output Format

- 41 No spelling or grammatical errors detected.
- 42 In UrlServletHelper.java all errors are logged in order to be used for bugfixing by developers, so they are not expected to provide guidance for the user on how to correct the problem.
 - In SetCalendar.java some errors have an error message, while others are only thrown.
- 43 Both files provide output which is not expected to be formatted.

3.15 Computation, Comparisons and Assignments

- 44 In UrlServletHelper.java examples of "brutish programming" can be found from line 105 to 119, from 122 to 151 and from 205 to 282.

 In SetCalendar.java no example of "brutish programming" can be found.
- 45 In both files there is no complex computation.
- 46 In both files no operator precedence is needed.
- 47 In both files there is no division, thus there is no denominator either.
- 48 Both files contains no arithmetic operation concerning non-integer numbers.
- 49 In both files all comparisons and Boolean operators are correct.
- 50 In UrlServletHelper.java there is no throw expression since all exceptions are handled locally by catch expression whose error conditions are coherent with the previous operations within the try block.

 In SetCalendar.java there are seven throw expressions: line 105, 134, 152, 223,
- 51 In both files all type conversions are done via explicit casting.

3.16 Exceptions

245, 258, 326.

- 52 In both files all relevant exceptions are caught.
- 53 In UrlServletHelper.java all the catch blocks always call logError or log-Warning, ensuring that exceptions are properly handled. In SetCalendar.java all the catch blocks always call a proper action.

3.17 Flow of Control

- 54 In both files there is no switch statement.
- 55 In both files there is no switch statement.
- 56 In UrlServletHelper.java there is only one for loop (line 105) which cycles on the element of a List the cycle never modifies, so it will always terminate after a finite number of steps. Concerning while statements, three of them can be found (line 272, 275, 278), and for all of them their Boolean condition values are affected by the instructions inside the while blocks: the instructions in the first two blocks reduce the length of the string the Boolean condition is based on; while the third block of instructions replace -- with -, so as soon as there are no longer -- the cycle ends. This means all cycles will always terminate after a finite number of iterations.

In SetCalendar. java there is no loop.

3.18 Files

- 57 In both files no file is used.
- 58 In both files no file is used.
- 59 In both files no file is used.
- 60 In both files no file is used.

4 Other problems

4.1 Design

In UrlServletHelper.java there is a potential performance issue since the checkPath-Alias method contains two queries: the first one is always performed on each method call, the other one it's performed each time the former turns out to be useless. If called on each web request, and most of the paths don't match to an alias, this code uselessly slows down the web page loading.

4.2 Potentially Deprecable Code

In SetCalendar.java there is a comment marking the autoCorrect method as temporally needed during software upgrade transitions between two versions of the framework, both precedent to the current one. May be reasonable to remove that if it's no longer needed and if there exists no upgrade paths from v1 to current version.

4.3 Spacing

In UrlServletHelper.java the three while statements (lines 272, 275, 278) are not followed by a blank space between while and (condition).

5 Appendix

5.1 References

- https://cwiki.apache.org/confluence/display/OFBIZ/Multitenancy+support
- https://cwiki.apache.org/confluence/display/OFBADMIN/Mini+Language+-+ minilang+-+simple-method+-+Reference

5.2 Effort Spent

Teamwork	~4h
Piccirillo Luca	~5h
Zampogna Gian Luca	~8h
Zini Edoardo	~5h

5.3 Revision History

Version	Date	Changes
1.0-RC1	05/02/2017	First deadline release.