# Week 1 (8 hours)

Installed Eclipse JEE. Maven plugin. C++ perspective

# Google Protocol Buffer

Advantages over XML:

1. Simpler?
2. 3 to 10 times smaller
3. 20 to 100 times faster
4. Less ambiguous?
5. Generate data access classes that are easier to use programmatically? (SOAP also does that)

Disadvantages comparing to XML:

Not human readable (the message definition is contained in the .proto file)

1. Managed to compile first proto file
2. A message created and saved to a file
3. The message loaded from the file

**Google protocol buffer classes are not first class citizens!**

Google protocol buffer is just a tool for serialization and parsing. We still have to use e.g. sockets.

Google Protocol Buffer parsers cannot determine the type of a message based on its content only.

Setting up the C++ environment. Installing the compiler. Still not working!

http://stackoverflow.com/questions/9243816/how-to-build-google-protocol-buffers-in-windows-for-mingw

**Open questions:**

Should we use maven? “project management and comprehension tool”, java project independent from IDE, used heavily in google.