ASP.NET AJAX

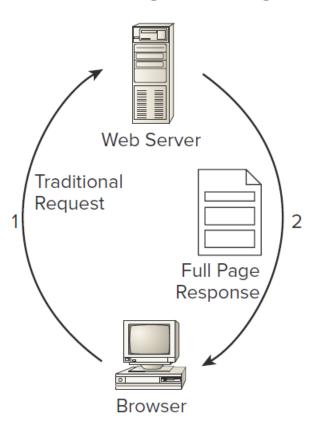
Asst. Prof. Dr. Özgü Can

ASP.NET AJAX

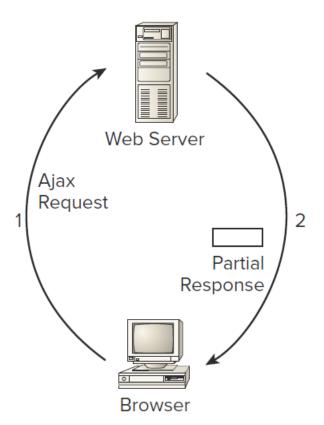
- Asynchronous JavaScript And XML
- Enables client-side web pages to exchange data with the server through asynchronous calls.
- Flicker-free page
 - Enables to perform a postback to the server without refreshing the entire page.
- Gives more server controls to create rich, interactive, and responsive user interfaces.

AJAX

Traditional Page Processing



Ajax Page Processing

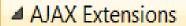


ASP.NET AJAX

Enables you to:

- Create flicker-free pages that enable you to refresh portions of the page without a full reload and without affecting other parts of the page.
- Provide feedback to your users during these page refreshes.
- Update sections of a page and call server-side code on a scheduled basis using a timer.
- Access server-side web services and page methods and work with the data they return.
- Use the rich, client-side programming framework to access and modify elements in your page, and get access to a code model and type system that looks similar to that of the .NET Framework.

AJAX Extensions



- ♠ Pointer
- ScriptManager
- ScriptManagerProxy
- (2) Timer
- UpdatePanel
- UpdateProgress

Creating Flicker-Free Pages

- UpdatePanel

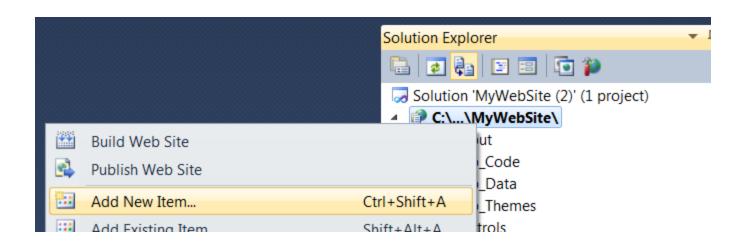
 To avoid full postbacks in ASPX pages and update only part of the page.
- Whenever one of the controls within the UpdatePanel causes a postback to the server, only the content within that UpdatePanel is refreshed.
- For this control to operate correctly;
 - ScriptManager → Bridge between the client page and the server

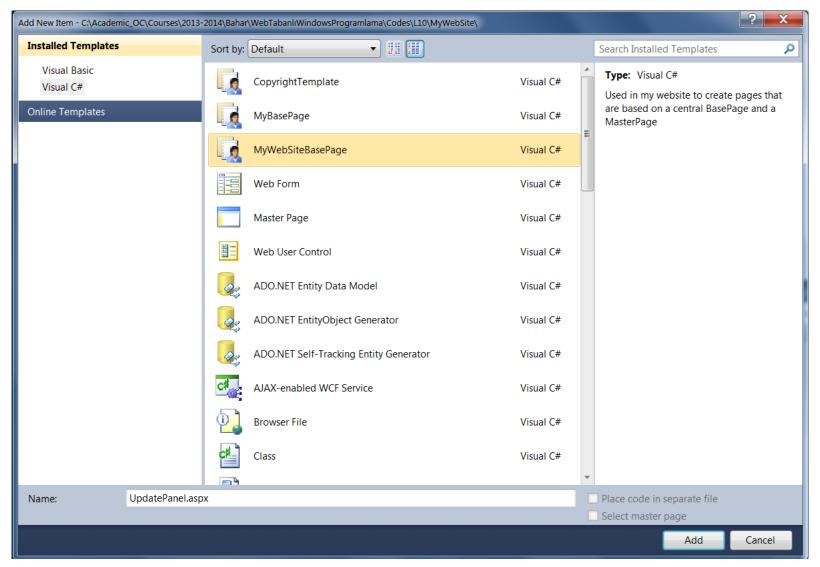
ScriptManager

- Place the ScriptManager in the master page
 - If you're going to use Ajax functionality in many of your ASPX pages → It's available in all pages that are based on this master.
- You can only have one ScriptManager per page
 - If you add one to a master page, you can't add another one to a content page.
- ScriptManagerProxy

 In order to access a
 ScriptManager control that is defined in a
 master page from a content page.

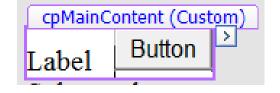
Add New Item





- Title

 Update Panel Demo
- In Design View:



- Drag a Label and a Button
- -Clear the **Text** property of the **Label**



Double-click the grey area:

```
protected void Page_Load(object sender, EventArgs e)
{
    Label1.Text = System.DateTime.Now.ToString();
}
```

View in browser



Click the Button control a few times.

Note that each time you click the button, the page flickers and is then redrawn, displaying the updated date and time.



- In Source View:
 - Make some room right before the Label control,
 and then type updatepanel and press Tab.

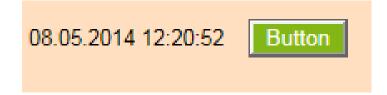
 Cut & paste Label and Button definitions between <ContentTemplate> and </ContentTemplate>

Drag a ScriptManager before UpdatePanel

or

Type sm and press Tab

View in browser



 Click the button a few times to update the label with the current date and time.

Note that there is no page flicker now.

08.05.2014 12:21:45 Button

UpdateProgress

- Postback's advantage → the user can see something is happening
- UpdatePanel → Users have no visual cue
 that something is happening until it has
 happened.
- UpdateProgress
 - Tells users to hold on for a few seconds while their request is being processed.

UpdateProgress

- Connect the UpdateProgress control to an UpdatePanel:
 - AssociatedUpdatePanelID property
 - Text such as "Please wait" or an animated image to let the user know something is happening

- Open ContactForm.ascx in Controls folder.
- In Source View → Wrap the entire element & the Label at the bottom of the control in an UpdatePanel with a <ContentTemplate>.

 Add ID

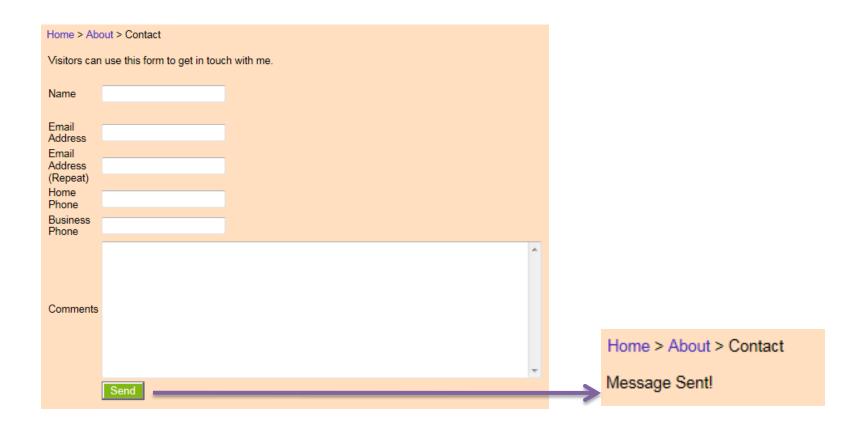
- Open → Frontend.master
- Between the opening <form> tag and the <div> for the PageWrapper, add a ScriptManager control.

```
| <body>
| <form id="form1" runat="server">
| <div id="PageWrapper">
| <div id="Header"><a href="~/" runat="server"></a></div>
| <body>
| <form id="form1" runat="server">
| <asp:ScriptManager ID="ScriptManager1" runat="server" />
| <div id="PageWrapper">
| <div id="Header"><a href="~/" runat="server"></a></div></div>
```

• Open → **UpdatePanel.aspx**

• Remove ScriptManager Control

• View Contact.aspx in browser



- In App_Themes folder:
 - Add PleaseWait.gif → Monochrome > Images
 - App_Themes
 DarkGrey
 Images
 Header.jpg
 PleaseWait.gif
 DarkGrey.css
 - Add PleaseWait.gif → DarkGrey > Images
 - Monochrome
 Images
 header.jpg
 MenuBackground.jpg
 PleaseWait.gif
 Sidebar.jpg

• In Monochrome.css and DarkGrey.css:

```
.PleaseWait
{
    height: 32px;
    width: 500px;
    background-image: url(Images/PleaseWait.gif);
    background-repeat: no-repeat;
    padding-left: 40px;
    line-height: 32px;
}
```

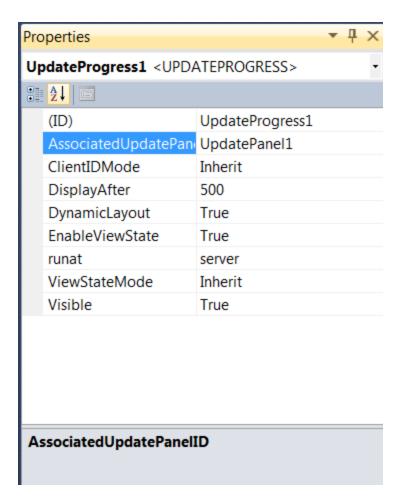
• Open → ContactForm.ascx in Controls folder

 Below the closing tag of the UpdatePanel at the end of the file, drag an UpdateProgress control.

```
</ContentTemplate>
</asp:UpdatePanel>

<asp:UpdateProgress ID="UpdateProgress1" runat="server">
</asp:UpdateProgress></asp:UpdateProgress>
```

AssociatedUpdatePanelID = UpdatePanel1

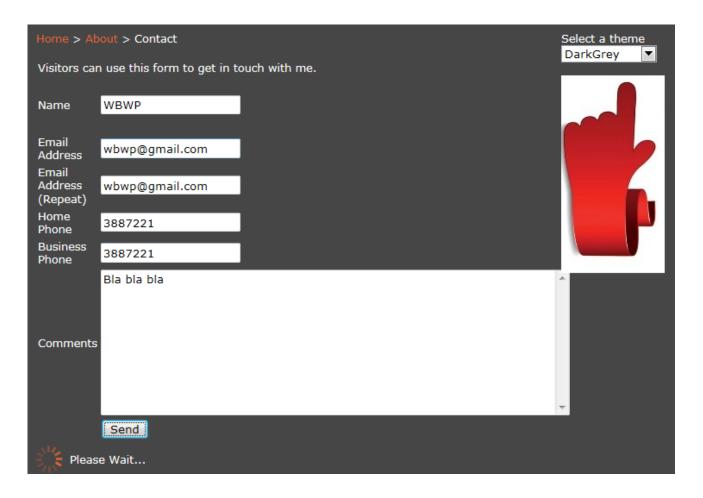


In Source View:

• Open → ControlForm.ascx.cs

```
Message.Visible = true;
FormTable.Visible = false;
To emulate a long delay System.Threading.Thread.Sleep(5000);
```

View Contact.aspx in browser

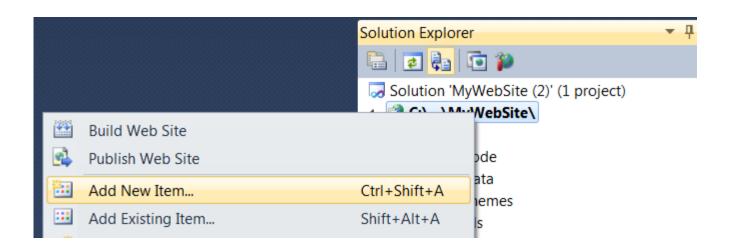


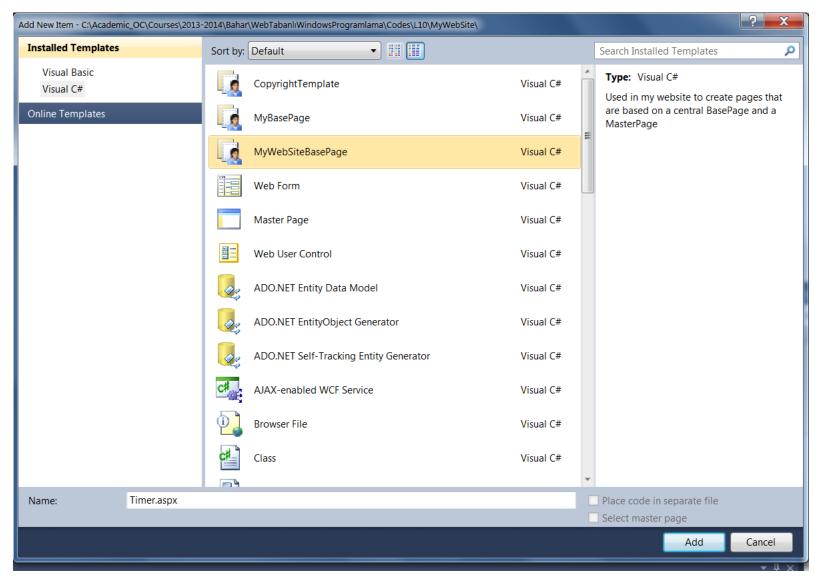
Timer

- Great for <u>executing server-side code</u> on a repetitive basis.
 - For example, you can use it to update the contents of an UpdatePanel every 5 seconds.

 For more information check out MSDN's web page → http://tinyurl.com/TimerClass

Add New Item





- Title = Timer Demo
- In Design View:
 - Drag an UpdatePanel
 - Drag a Label inside UpdatePanel

Drag a Timer control below the Label

```
cpMainContent (Custom)
asp:Timer#Timer1
Timer - Timer1
```

```
protected void Timer1_Tick(object sender, EventArgs e)
{
    Label1.Text = System.DateTime.Now.ToString();
}
```

View in browser



- Methods that you can call over the Internet and that can optionally return data to the calling code.
- Ideal for exchanging data between between different types of platforms and systems.
 - For example;
 - exchange data between an ASP.NET web site running on Microsoft Windows and a PHP-based site running on Linux.
 - exchange data between an ASP.NET web site and a client browser using JavaScript.

- To expose a method as a service:
 - WebMethod attribute
- An attribute is like a little tag or label that you can stick on code elements, like methods, properties, and so on, to mark that piece of code as something special.

```
[WebMethod]
public string HelloWorld() {
    return "Hello World";
}
```

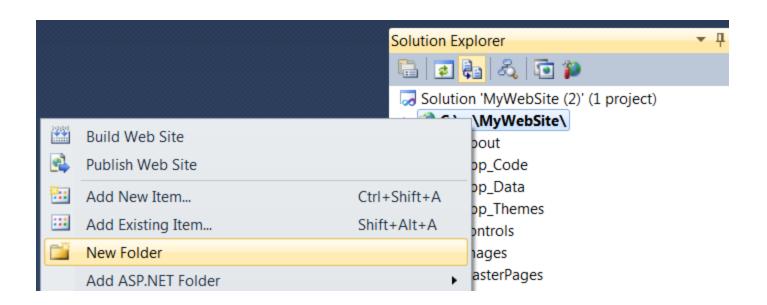
Signal to the ASP.NET runtime that you really want to expose this method as a web method that can be called from client-side code.

- This also enables you to create other methods in the same class that are **not** exposed as **web** services automatically, giving you *flexibility in* determining what to open up for the outside world.
- Place this method in a file with an .asmx extension and inside a class that inherits from System.Web.Services.WebService.

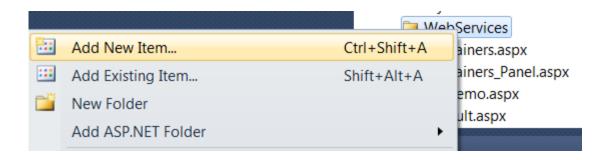
- You may want your client-side pages to talk to a web service on a different domain.
 - You need to set up security in the browser to allow this.
- You can also use web services to have two servers or other applications communicate with each other. In that case, one application interacts with an ASP.NET web service over the network to exchange data.

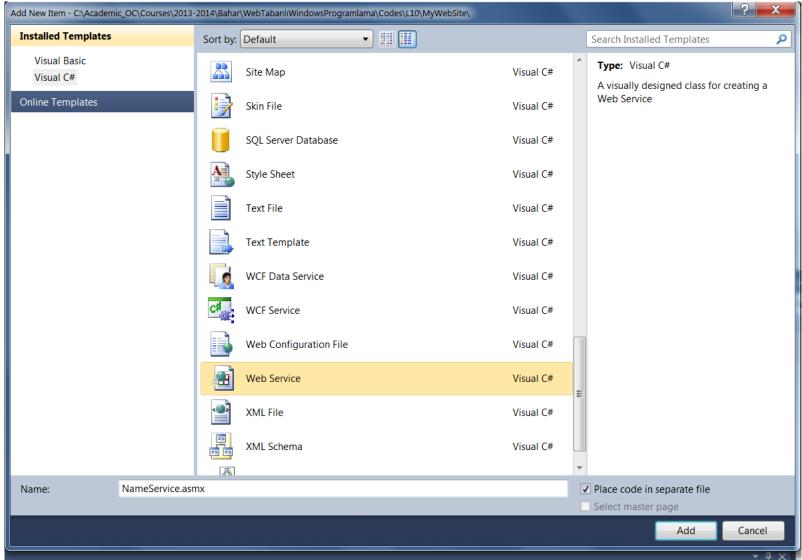
Outside the scope of this course!

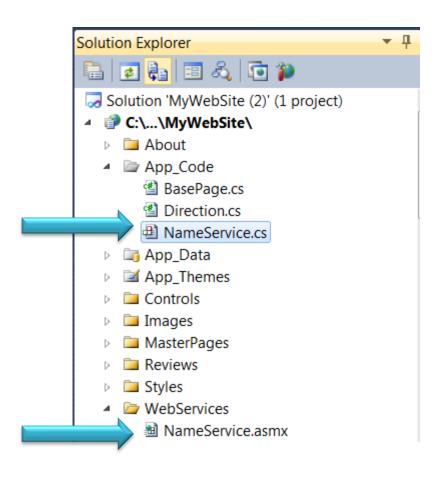
• Create a new folder \rightarrow WebServices



Add New Item







• Open → NameService.cs

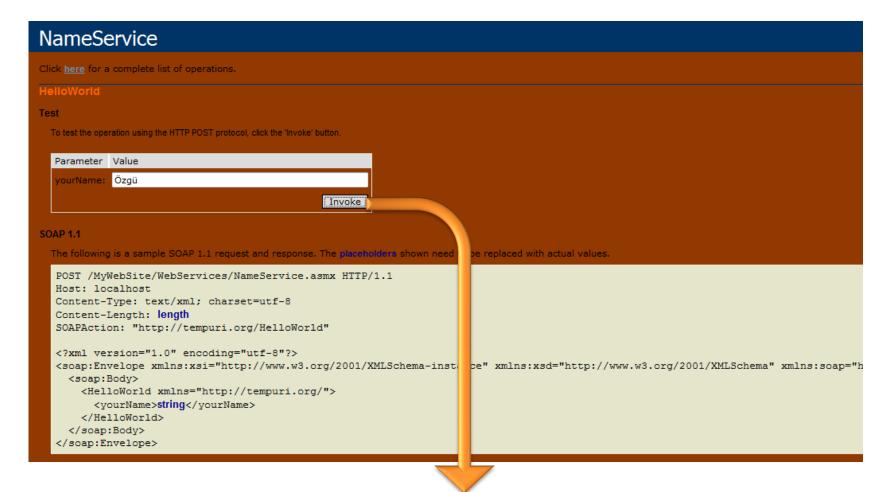
```
[WebMethod]
public string HelloWorld() {
    return "Hello World";
}
```



```
[WebMethod]
public string HelloWorld(string yourName) {
    return string.Format("Hello {0}",yourName);
}
```

• View NameService.asmx in browser.





Configuring the Web Service

- To make a web service visible by client-side script:
 - at the NameService class in the App_Code folder, you see that the template already added the attribute for you, but commented it out:

```
// To allow this Web Service to be called from script, using ASP.NET AJAX, uncomment the following line.
// [System.Web.Script.Services.ScriptService]
```

 Uncomment the line to expose the entire service as a client-script service.

Configuring the ScriptManager

- A required component in almost all Ajaxrelated operations.
- To expose your web service to client script:
 - In the ScriptManager in the master pageor
 - In a content page that uses the web service, using the ScriptManagerProxy class

Configuring the ScriptManager

In the ScriptManager in the master page

Give the ScriptManager control a

 <Services> element that in turn contains
 one or more ServiceReference elements
 that point to your public services.

Configuring the ScriptManager

- On a normal page that doesn't use a master page with a ScriptManager you can simply add a ScriptManager to the Web Form directly.
- However, if you are using a master page that already has its own ScriptManager you need to use a ScriptManagerProxy control.

- Open → NameService.cs
- To mark it as callable by client-side script:

Uncomment // [System.Web.Script.Services.ScriptService]



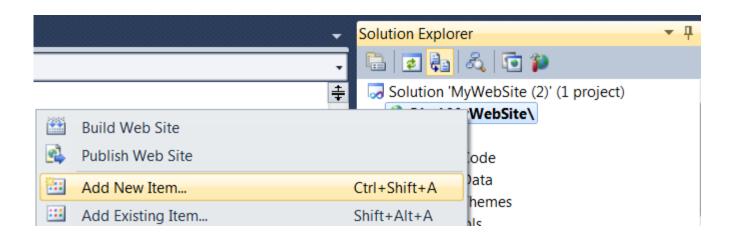
[System.Web.Script.Services.ScriptService]

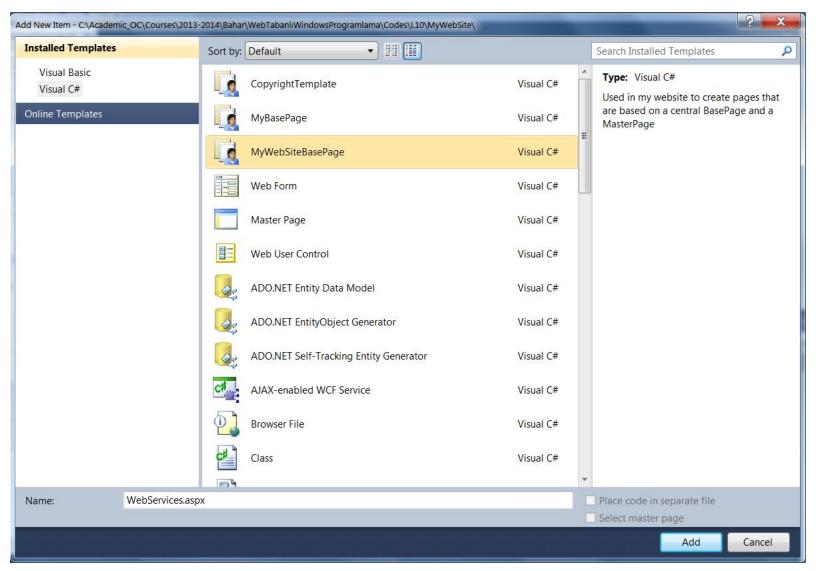
NOTE

If you have your own domain name:

```
[WebService(Namespace = "http://tempuri.org/")]
Change the namespace
```

Add New Item to the project





- Title = Web Services

```
cpMainContent (Custom) asp:scriptmanager...#ScriptManager...

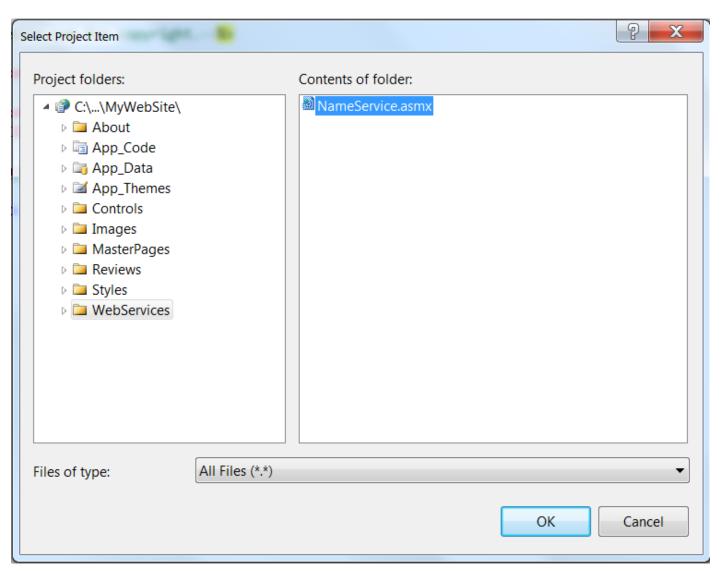
ScriptManagerProxy - ScriptManagerProxy1

Select a theme

Monochrome
```

- In Source View:
 - Add <Services> element that contains
 ServiceReference with Path

```
<asp:Content ID="Content2" ContentPlaceHolderID="cpMainContent" Runat="Server">
    <asp:ScriptManagerProxy ID="ScriptManagerProxy1" runat="server">
         <Services>
             <asp:ServiceReference Path="</pre>
         </Services>
                                               UpdatePanel_V2.aspx
    </asp:ScriptManagerProxy>
                                               UpdatePanel_V2.aspx.cs
</asp:Content>
                                              ViewState.aspx
                                               ViewState.aspx.cs
                                              web.config
                                               Web.sitemap
                                               WebServices.aspx
                                               WebServices.aspx.cs
                                               Pick URL ...
```



You should end up with this code:

- After </ScriptManagerProxy>, drag:
 - Input (Text)
 - Input (Button)

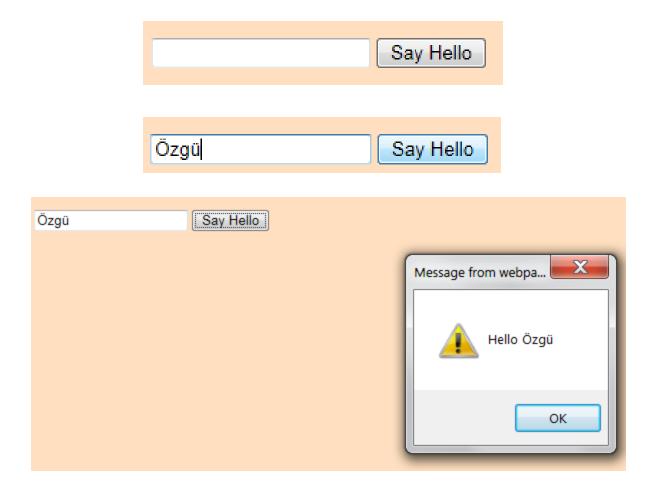
from HTML category of Toolbox.

```
</asp:ScriptManagerProxy>
<input id="yourNameText" type="text" />
<input id="sayHelloButton" type="button" value="Say Hello" />
```

```
<input id="yourNameText" type="text" />
<input id="sayHelloButton" type="button" value="Say Hello" />
<script type="text/javascript">
    function HelloWorld() {
        var yourName = $get('yourNameText').value;
       NameService.HelloWorld(yourName, HelloWorldCallback);
   function HelloWorldCallback(result) {
       alert(result);
    $addHandler($get('sayHelloButton'), 'click', HelloWorld);
```

NOTE → JavaScript is case-sensitive.

• View WebServices.aspx in browser.



Page Methods

- Similar to web services.
- What's different is that page methods are defined directly in an existing ASPX page instead of a separate ASMX service file.
- You can only call them from script running within that page.
- Ideal for small, simple functionality that is limited in scope to the current page.

Page Methods

 To enable page methods you need to set the property EnablePageMethods of the ScriptManager control to True.

Page Methods

- Setting them up and using them is a twostep process:
 - 1. Create a **public** and **static** method in the Code Behind of the page you're working with. You need to apply the [WebMethod] attribute to this method. The method can optionally receive data through its parameters and optionally return some data.
 - 2. Write the necessary JavaScript to call the page method and work with its result.

- Open → Frontend.master
- ScriptManager Properties:
 - -EnablePageMethods = True

```
<asp:ScriptManager ID="ScriptManager1" runat="server" EnablePageMethods="True" />
```

- Open → WebServices.aspx.cs
- Add the following code:

```
public partial class _WebServices : BasePage
{
    protected void Page_Load(object sender, EventArgs e)
    {
        }
        [WebMethod]
        public static string HelloWorld(string yourName)
        {
            return string.Format("Hello {0}", yourName);
        }
}
```

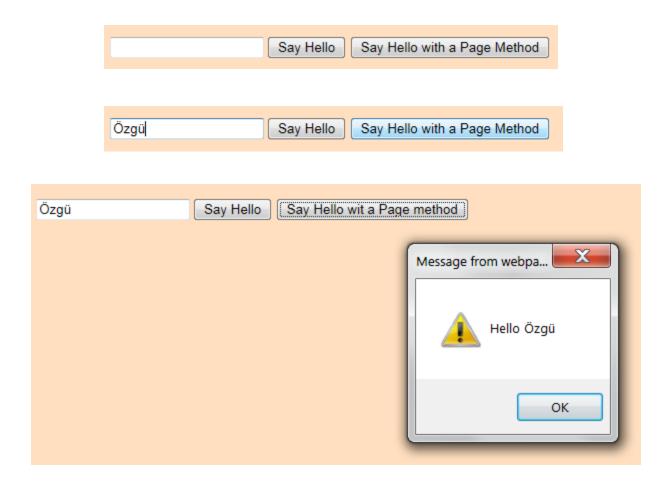


```
[WebMethod]
public static string HelloWorld(string yourName)
{
    return string.Format("Hello {0}", yourName);
}
```

- In Source View:
 - Add Input (Button) from HTML category of Toolbox

```
<input id="yourNameText" type="text" />
 <input id="sayHelloButton" type="button" value="Say Hello" />
▲input id="sayHelloPageMethod" type="button" value="Say Hello with a Page Method" />
 <script type="text/javascript">
     function HelloWorld() {
         var yourName = $get('yourNameText').value;
         NameService.HelloWorld(yourName, HelloWorldCallback);
    function HelloWorldPageMethod() {
         var yourName = $get('yourNameText').value;
         PageMethods.HelloWorld(yourName, HelloWorldCallback);
     function HelloWorldCallback(result) {
         alert(result);
     $addHandler($get('sayHelloButton'), 'click', HelloWorld);
    $addHandler($get('sayHelloPageMethod'), 'click', HelloWorldPageMethod);
 </script>
```

View in browser



ASP.NET AJAX

 For more information please check out MSDN's web site:

http://tinyurl.com/AboutAjax