IT4409: Web Technologies and e-Services Term 2020-1

Web Development Models

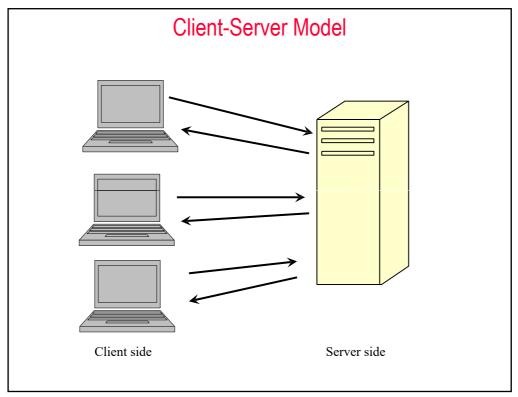
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Content

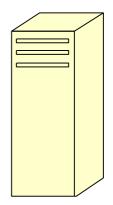
- Web Application Architecture: client-server
- Programming Languages on client side
 - Javascript, Flash, Applet, ...
- Programming Languages on server side
 - PHP, Server page, Servlet, ...
- 3-tier architecture and MVC model



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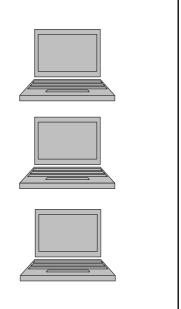
Server Roles

- Manage and store data, including:
 - User data
 - Application data
- Provide processing services for data
- Centralize data
- Manage user authentication, authorization mechanisms via login function



Client Roles

- Provide user interface
- Can store some small data (using cookie)
- Can process data (check validity of data that are entered by users)
 - Thin client: only provides user interface, centralize data processing on server side
 - Thick client: realizes data processing on client side
- Can be accessed from everywhere with minimal software installation



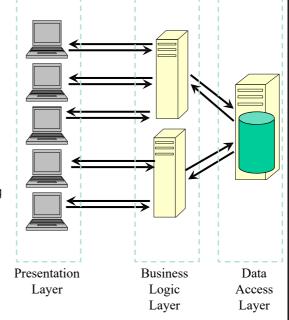
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Client-Server Advantages

- Centralized storage and processing. Switch from CAPEX to OPEX
- No data redundancy
- Enhance the ability of sharing data
 - If data are distributed on multi-systems of users, it will cause difficulties in sharing the data because each system has its own database architecture

3-Tier Architecture

- Database Tier (Data Access Layer)
 - Stores and accesses data in lowlevel
- Server Tier (Business Logic Layer)
 - Manages application connections and process data
- Client Tier (Presentation Layer)
 - · Provides interface and processing



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3-Tier Architecture Advantages

- Centralized Database can be accessed by many servers at the same time
- Allow load balance of user connections on many application servers
- Data Access Layer is consistently designed with hardware in order to serve specific its tasks:
 - Data manipulations: update, insert, remove, etc.
 - · Need more reliable hard drives
- Business Logic Layer are designed to provide connection points for user connections and run multi-applications
 - · Need more computing power of CPU

Programming Languages



Client Html JavaScript Flash



Server Java, Ruby Visual Basic PHP, Perl Python



Database SQL NoSQL

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Client Programming Language

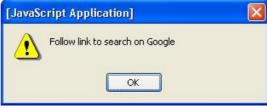
JavaScript

- Event Handling
- Statements (like C / Java)
- Operators
- Variables global (default)
 - Or local (e.g. var x = 1)
- Types can change
 - Eg. x = 1; x = 'Hello'
- Function definition (reuse)
- Message Alerts
- Page element access with Document Object Model
 - · Views HTML page as a tree of elements

Hello World Example

• This provides an annoying popup – try it!

```
<html>
<body>
<a href="http://www.google.co.uk"
   onMouseOver="(alert(
'Follow link to search on Google') )">
Search on Google
</a>
</body>
</html>
```



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What are Applets?

- An *applet* is a special Java program that can be embedded in HTML documents.
- It is automatically executed by (applet-enabled) web browsers.
- In Java, non-applet programs are called *applications*.

Application vs. Applet

Application

- Trusted (i.e., has full access to system resources)
- Invoked by Java Virtual Machine (JVM, java), e.g. java HelloWorld
- Should contain a main method, i.e., public static void main (String[])

Applet

- Not trusted (i.e., has limited access to system resource to prevent security breaches)
- Invoked automatically by the web browser
- Should be a subclass of class java.applet.Applet

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Java Application Example

```
HelloWorld.java

public class HelloWorld {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    System.out.println("Hello World!");
  }
}

HelloWorldApplet.java
```

Java Applet Example

Java source in HelloWorldApplet.java

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Server Programming Language

- Java uses Java servlets, Java Server Pages (JSP) and Java Beans.
- Ruby on Rails uses ruby programs and Embedded Ruby (ERB).
- Visual Basic Uses VB programs and Active Server Pages (ASP).
- Others:
 - PHP (Personal Home Page originally)
 - CGI (Common Gateway Interface)
 - Perl (Named after the parable of the pearl)
 - Python (Named for the Monty Python skits)
 - Tcl (Tool Command Language)

PHP

Hacky, but (also?) very c-like

Classes, etc., work very much like c/c++

Designed to work in the world of HTML

Is run-time interpreted by the web server

Reminder: it's hacky

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Simple PHP Example

- PHP is meant to be invoked inline with content Page "escapes" into and out of a regular html document
- File extension is .php (was .php3 for version 3)

```
<html>
<head>Test page</head>
<body>

The time is now

<?php
echo date();
?>

<hr>
</body>
</html>
```

JSP Example

See also the Servlet this page is translated to

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Date_jsp.java (extract)

This extract shows the part that produces the output – compare it with the JSP:

```
out = pageContext.getOut();
    _jspx_out = out;
out.write("<html>\r\n");
out.write("<head> ");
out.write("</title> Hello JSP ");
out.write("</title> ");
out.write("</head>\r\n");
out.write(" Hello World:\r\n ");
out.print( new java.util.Date() );
out.write("\r\n");
out.write("\r\n");
out.write("\r\n");
out.write("\r\n");
out.write("\r\n");
out.write("\r\n");
out.write("</p\r\n");</pre>
```

Produced



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MVC Development Model

- Architectural Pattern from Smalltalk (1979)
- Decouples data and presentation
- Eases the development

MVC - The Model

- The "Model" contains the data
- Has methods to access and possibly update it's contents.
- Often, it implements an interface which defines the allowed model interactions.
- Implementing an interface enables models to be pulled out and replaced without programming changes.

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MVC - The View

- The View provides a visual representation of the model.
- There can be multiple views displaying the model at any one time.
 - For example, a companies finances over time could be represented as a table and a graph.
 - These are just two different views of the same data.
- When the model is updated, all Views are informed and given a chance to update themselves.

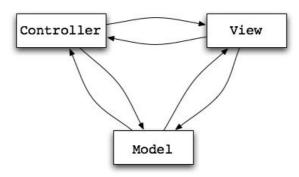
MVC - The Controller

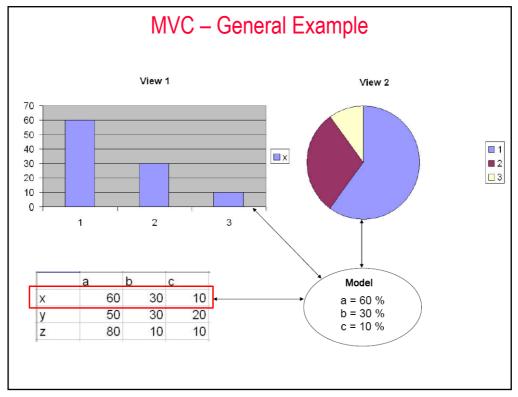
- It interprets mouse movement, clicks, keystrokes, etc
- Communicates those activities to the model eg: delete row, insert row, etc

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Example Control Flow in MVC

- User interacts with the VIEW UI
- CONTROLLER handles the user input (often a callback function attached to UI elements)
- CONTROLLER updates the MODEL
- VIEW uses MODEL to generate new UI
- UI waits for user interaction

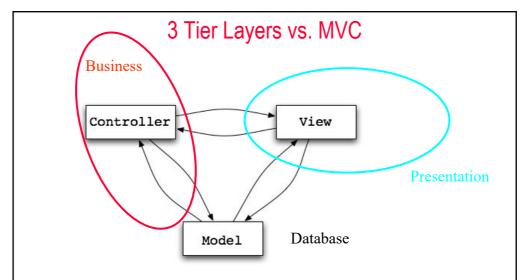




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MVC Advantages

- MVC decouples the model, view, and controller from each other to increase flexibility and reuse.
 - You can attach multiple views to the model without rewriting it.
 - You can change the way a view responds to user input without changing the visual presentation. For example, you might use a pop-up menu instead of keyboard command keys.



Presentation:

- View is the user interface (e.g. button)
- Controller is the code (e.g. callback for button)

Data:

Model is the database

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Summary

- Client-Server Model
- 3-Tier Architecture
- Dynamic Web Programming Languages
- MVC Model

