Introduction to Web Services (SOAP & REST)

Introduction to Web Services

Lesson Objectives

- What are Web services
 - Web service Components and Architecture
 - How do web services work ?
- HTTP and SOAP messages
- Overview of JAX WS and JAX RS



Web Services - Overview

- Web Service is a piece of business logic located somewhere on the internet, that is accessible through HTTP, with following features:
 - Web services use an XML messaging system
 - Are not tied to any one operating system or programming language
 - Support applications that require interoperability across heterogeneous systems
- Official definition of Web Service is:
 - A software system designed to support interoperable machine-to-machine interaction over a network
- Web Services are actively used in following application areas:
 - In any e-commerce application during payment transactions
 - In any order processing system to place an order via different platforms(example - web, mobile)



Web service – Components

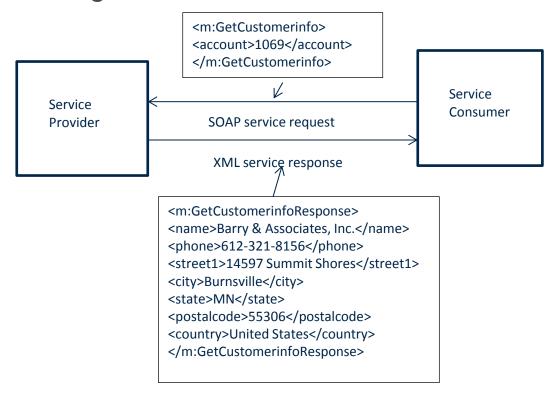
SOAP

- SOAP is an XML based messaging protocol (format) for inter-service/application communication
- Defines a set of rules for structuring messages
- SOAP is XML based, so it is platform independent and language independent. In other words, it can be used with Java, .Net or PHP language on any platform



Web service - Components

A SOAP message looks as follows:





Web Services - Components

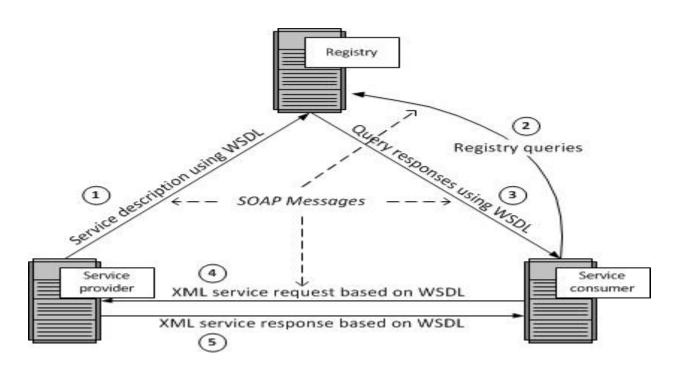
- Components of Web Services
 - SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol)
 - Deals with formatting XML documents for transmission between applications
 - WSDL (Web Services Description Language)
 - Defines all the details about a service
 - UDDI (Universal Description, Discovery and Integration)
 - Mechanism to advertise and discover services.



Web service - Components

WSDL

- WSDL is an implementation of XML and supplies a standard language for describing the interfaces to Web services
- The following figure demonstrates the use of WSDL





Web service - Components

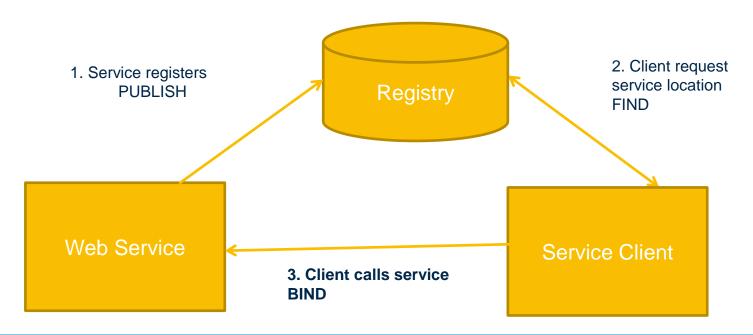
WSDL

- Standardizes how a web service represents input and output parameters of an invocation
- Defines the function structures
- Nature of the invocation (in, out parameter passing)
- Services protocol binding



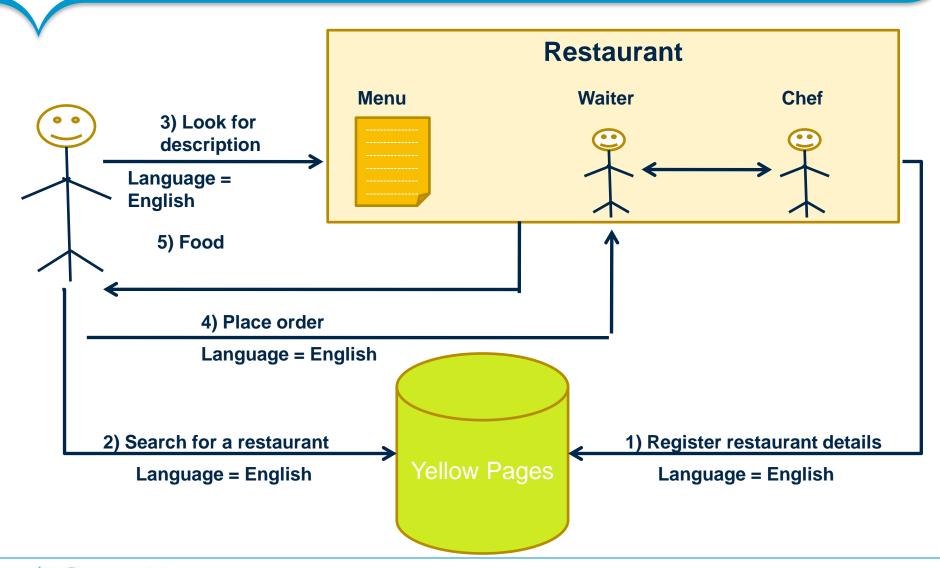
Web service: Components and architecture

- UDDI
 - provides a standard mechanism for dynamic description, discovery and integration of web services
 - Gives a world wide registry of Web services
- Web service architecture



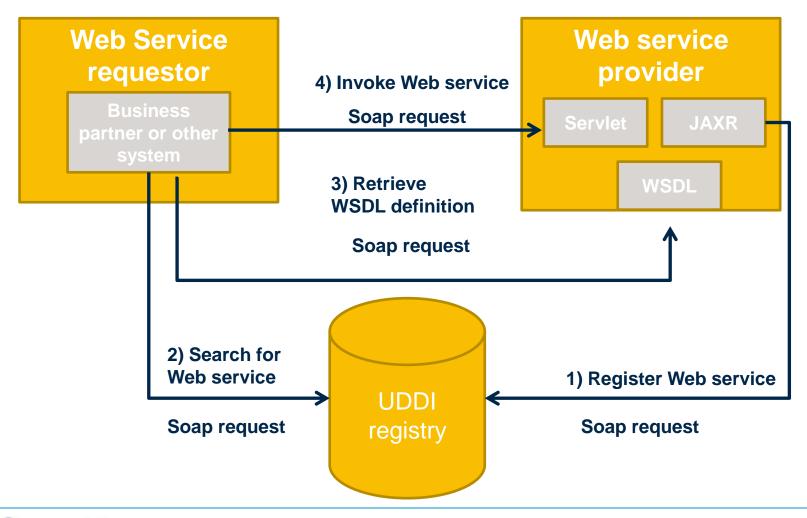


How do Web services work [Ordering in restaurant]





How do Web services work





1.2.: Messages

HTTP and SOAP Messages

- HTTP is a request / response protocol
- SOAP sends messages over HTTP
- A valid SOAP message is a well-formed XML document
- HTTP + XML = SOAP
- The content -Type header for a SOAP request and response defines the MIME type for the message and the character encoding (optional) used for XML body of the request or response
- SOAP messages sent over HTTP are placed in the payload of an HTTP request or response
 - An area that is normally occupied by form data and HTML



JAX- WS - Overview

- The Java API for XML Web Services (JAX-WS) is a Java programming language API for creating web services
- In JAX-WS, a web service operation invocation is represented by an XML-based protocol, such as SOAP.
 - The SOAP specification defines the envelope structure, rules for representing web service invocations and responses
 - These calls and responses are transmitted as SOAP messages over HTTP
- With JAX-WS, clients and web services have a big advantage: the platform independence of the Java programming language.
- In addition, JAX-WS is not restrictive: A JAX-WS client can access a web service that is not running on the Java platform, and vice versa.



JAX- RS - Overview

- Java API for RESTful Web Services (JAX-RS) uses the REST architecture
- Representational State Transfer (REST) is an architectural style for web services to improve the performance and scalability
 - REST enables services to work best on the web
- In REST style, data and functionality are considered resources and accessed using URI (Uniform resource Identifiers), typically links on the web
- REST is designed to use a state less communication protocol, like HTTP
- Using REST producers and consumers exchange representations of resources by using a standardized interface



Summary

- What we have seen so far:
 - What is a web service
 - Overview of Web service components
 - How do web service work
 - HTTP and SOAP messages
 - Overview of JAX- WS and JAX RS



Review Question

- Question 1: Which of the following is not true about a web service?
 - Web service is a piece of business software accessible over the internet
 - Web service is programming language dependent
 - Web services use standard XML messaging system
 - Web services consists of service producer, consumer and registry
- Question 2: State whether true or false?
 - UDDI is a directory of web service interfaces described by WSDL, containing information about web services
- Question 3: Fill in the Blank
 - The communication between service producers and consumers happen via



Review Question: Match the Following

1. SOAP

2. UDDI

3. WSDL

4. Web service provider _____ calls to registry

5. JAX - WS

6. JAX- RS

a. Web services description language

b. Publish

c. Universal definition, Discovery and Integration

d. Java API for RESTful Web services

e. Java API for XML web services

f. Simple Object Access Protocol

