Distributed tracing



Agenda

- Spring Cloud Sleuth
- Log enhancement and correlation with Slf4J/Logback/Graylog
- Request visualization and latency analysis with Zipkin

Spring Cloud Sleuth

- Distributed tracing tool for Spring Boot applications
- Debugging request flow through multiple microservices
 - Where was time spent?
 - Where did an error occur?
- "sleuth": "a person who investigates crimes; a detective"
- Builds on top of OpenZipkin Brave tracing library
- Adds trace and span IDs to the logging context
- Records timing information to aid in latency analysis and sends it to Zipkin
- Instruments common ingress and egress points (RPC, HTTP, messaging)

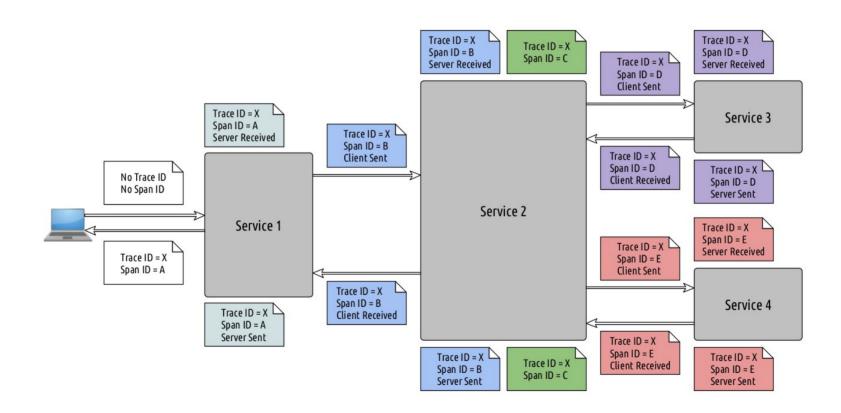


Terminology

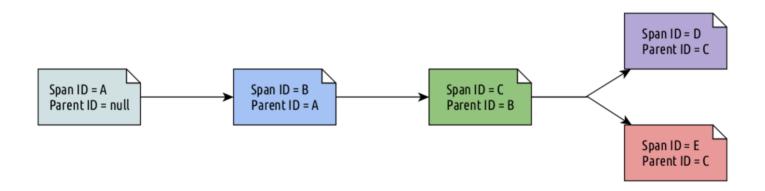
- **Span**: Basic unit of work that represents an operation; has events and tags; is started and stopped
- **Trace**: Set of spans that form a tree-like structure, one per request
- Annotation/Event:
 - (cs) client sent/start Client made a request; start of a span
 - (sr) server received/start Server got a request and started processing
 - (ss) server sent/finish Server completed request processing
 - (cr) client received/finish Client received response; end of a span
- Baggage: Additional fields to propagate across services within the tracing context
- Tag: Key-value pair that stores information corresponding to a span



Example: Trace with multiple spans



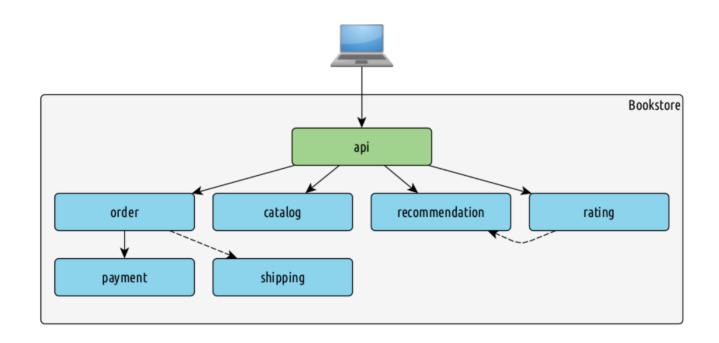
Example: Parent-child relationship of spans



Demo: Getting started with Spring Cloud Sleuth



Demo: Bookstore



However

- Zipkin is not a logging tool not all requests get sent to Zipkin
 - spring.sleuth.sampler.probability=0.5
- Don't create too much baggage

Distributed tracing landscape

Open Source

- OpenZipkin
- OpenTracing
- OpenCensus
- OpenTelemetry
- Jaeger

Enterprise

- Amazon X-Ray
- Datadog
- Dynatrace
- Google Cloud Trace
- Honeycomb
- Instana
- Lightstep
- New Relic
- Wavefront



References

- https://spring.io/projects/spring-cloud-sleuth
- https://zipkin.io
- https://www.graylog.org
- https://github.com/nikola-zivkov/2021-12-01-distributed-tracing-talk



Q&A



Thanks!

