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Technologies used

In the seminar we discussed, amongst many things, the use of SoA and web service implementations and how it benefits the industry in many ways. We also discussed the possibility of old design patterns being reused as a new technology in these new ways of implementing systems and applications. By using Spring, Maven and Tomcat in laboration 2, we found that it helped us out greatly with creating a simple web application. Help that, when viewed in a different light, could be considered as structuring our application and using old design patterns, such as the Strategy pattern in the Spring MVC framework.

Spring - Spring is an easy to use open source application framework and inversion of control container. It could be used to build any kinds of applications, but features good extensions for creating web applications. The reason why we use spring is because of all the features available in the spring MVC extension such as the forced and request based structure.

Maven - Apache Maven is a software tool for project management. By using the project object model (pom) one can manage the build, documentation and reporting of the project in a centralized manner. The pom file is written in XML-format and is describing the dependencies, software build, directories and external components and modules. The pom file could also contain information regarding build order and plug-ins in the project.

Tomcat - The Apache Tomcat software is an open source implementation of the Java Servlet, JavaServer Pages, Java Expression Language and Java WebSocket technologies.

How we installed the technologies

Tomcat is downloaded from apache website and placed in a folder of your own choice. The same goes for Maven; it is downloaded from the apache website and placed in a folder of your choice. By then telling the OS how to use the different scripts and commands in Maven (setting up the path to the folder) we could make use of these commands. When we created the project in Eclipse we generated a maven project which gave us a pom.xml file for configuration of the project. The necessary spring files are downloaded via the pom-file configuration every time we run the ‘mvn clean install’ command from Maven which meant that we didn't have to, manually, download and install any extensions used from spring.

Strong points of the technologies

Spring makes implementation of big projects with many dependencies easier. Maven controls and makes it easy to set up package dependencies along with creating a standard structure for your directories. Tomcat provides an easy to use java servlet for web application such as web servers.

References

Spring**,** Pivotal Software, https://spring.io/, accessed 2017-04-17.
Maven**,** Apache Software Foundation, https://maven.apache.org/, accessed 2017-04-17.
Tomcat**,** Apache Software Foundation, http://tomcat.apache.org/, accessed 2017-04-17.