

Middleware and Web Services

Lecture 4: Advanced Service Concepts and Technologies

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Overview

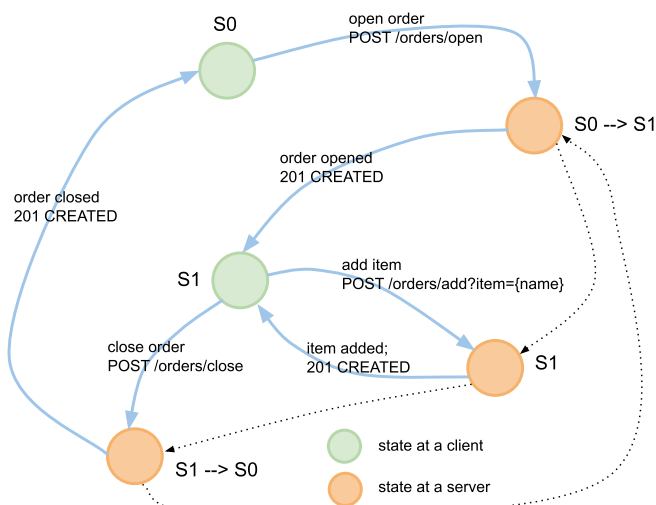
- **HATEOAS**
- Caching, Revalidation, Concurrency Control
- Richardson Maturity Model
- SOAP and WSDL

HATEOAS

- HATEOAS = Hypertext as the Engine for Application State
 - *The REST core principle*
 - **Hypertext**
 - *Hypertext is a representation of a resource with **links***
 - *A link is an URI of a resource*
 - *Applying an access to a resource via its link = state transition*
- Statelessness
 - *A service does not use a memory to remember a state*
 - *HATEOAS enables stateless implementation of services*

Stateful server

- Sessions to store the application state
 - *The app uses a server memory to remember the state*
 - *When the server restarts, the app state is lost*

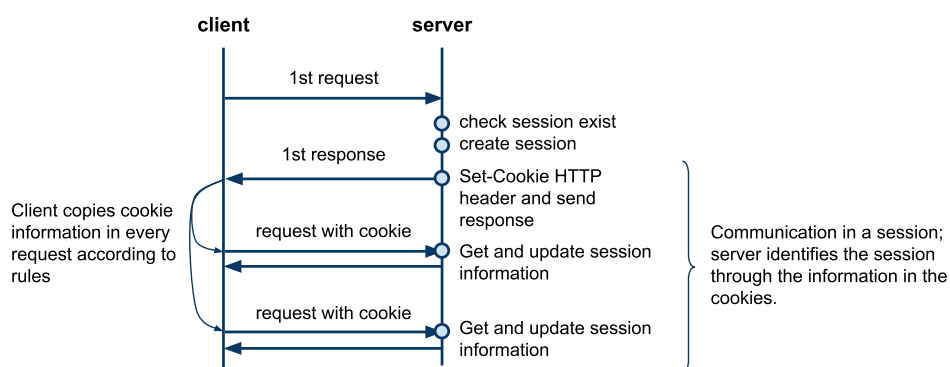


State Management

- HTTP is a stateless protocol – original design
 - No information to relate multiple interactions at server-side
 - Except **Authorization** header is copied in every request
 - IP addresses do not work, one public IP can be shared by multiple clients
- Solutions to check for a valid state at server-side
 - **Cookies** – obvious and the most common workaround
 - RFC 2109 – HTTP State Management Mechanism [🔗](#)
 - Allow clients and servers to talk in a context called **sessions**
 - **Hypertext** – original HTTP design principle
 - App states represented by resources (hypermedia), links define transitions between states
 - Adopted by the REST principle **statelessness**

Interaction with Cookies

- Request-response interaction with cookies
 - Session is a logical channel maintained by the server



- Stateful Server
 - Server remembers the session information in a server memory
 - Server memory is a non-persistent storage, when server restarts the memory content is lost!

Set-Cookie and Cookie Headers

- **Set-Cookie** response header

```
1 set-cookie = "Set-Cookie:" cookie ("," cookie)*
2 cookie    = NAME "=" VALUE ("," cookie-av)*
3 cookie-av = "Comment" "=" value
4           | "Domain"  "=" value
5           | "Max-Age"  "=" value
6           | "Path"    "=" value
```

- **domain** – a domain for which the cookie is applied
- **Max-Age** – number of seconds the cookie is valid
- **Path** – URL path for which the cookie is applied

- **Cookie** request header. A client sends the cookie in a request if:

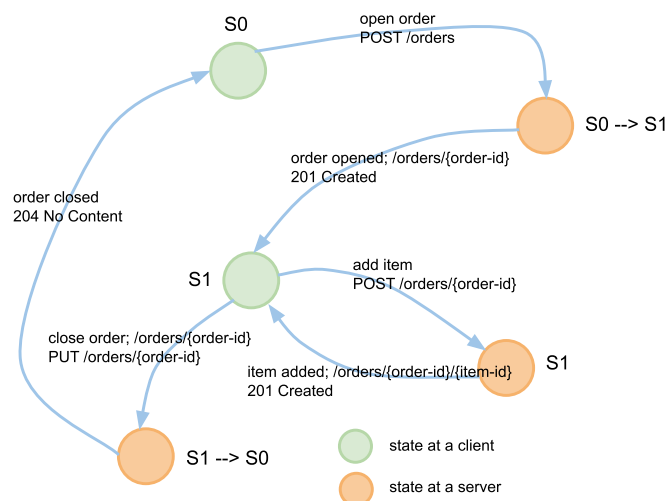
- **domain** matches the origin server's fully-qualified host name
- **path** matches a prefix of the request-URI
- **Max-Age** has not expired

```
1 cookie = "Cookie:" cookie-value ("," cookie-value)*
2 cookie-value = NAME "=" VALUE ["," path] ["," domain]
3 path        = "$Path" "=" value
4 domain      = "$Domain" "=" value
```

- **domain**, and **path** are values from corresponding attributes of the **Set-Cookie** header

Stateless server

- HTTP and hypermedia to transfer the app state
 - Does not use a server memory to remember the app state
 - State transferred between a client and a service via HTTP metadata and resources' representations

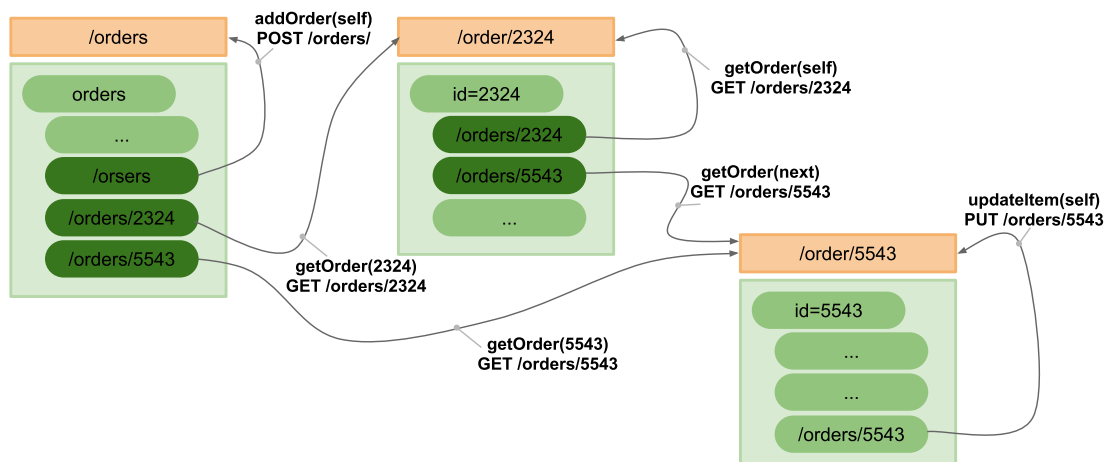


Persistent Storage and Session Memory

- Persistent Storage
 - Contains the app data
 - Data is serialized into resource representation formats
 - All sessions may access the data via resource IDs
- Session Memory
 - Server memory that contains a state of the app
 - A session may only access its session memory
 - Access through cookies
 - Note
 - A session memory may be implemented via a persistent storage (such as in Google AppEngine)

Link

- Service operation
 - Applying an access to a link (GET, PUT, POST, DELETE)
 - Link: HTTP method + resource URI + optional link semantics
- Example: **getOrder**, **addOrder**, and **updateItem**



Atom Links

- Atom Syndication Format

- XML-based document format; Atom feeds
- Atom links becoming popular for RESTful applications

```
1 <order a:xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom" xmlns="...">
2   <a:link
3     rel="next"
4     href="http://company.com/orders/5543"
5     type="application/xml"/>
6   <customer>Tomas</customer>
7   <items>...</items>
8 </order>
```

- Link structure

rel – name of the link

~ semantics of an operation behind the link

href – URI to the resource described by the link

type – media type of the resource the link points to

Link Semantics

- Standard **rel** values

- Navigation: **next**, **previous**, **self**
- Does not reflect a HTTP method you can use

- Extension **rel** values

- You can use **rel** to indicate a semantics of an operation
- Example: add item, delete order, update order, etc.
- A client associates this semantics with an operation it may apply at a particular state
- The semantics should be defined by using an URI

```
1 <order a:xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2005/Atom" xmlns="...">
2   <id>2324</id>
3   <a:link rel="http://company.com/op/addItem"
4     href="http://company.com/orders/2324"/>
5   <a:link rel="http://company.com/op/deleteOrder"
6     href="http://company.com/orders/2324"/>
7 </order>
```

Link Headers

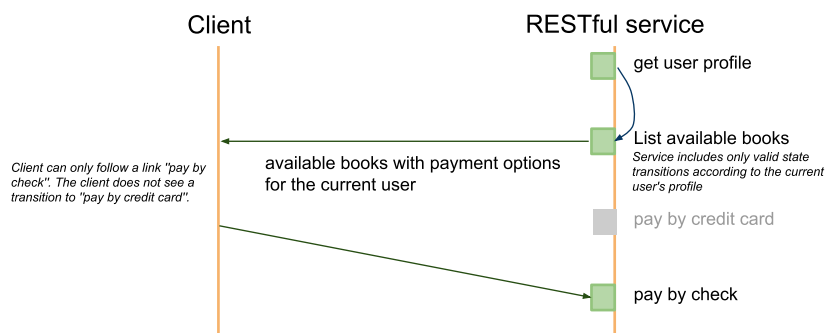
- An alternative to Atom links in resource representations
 - links defined in *HTTP Link header*; *Web Linking IETF spec* [🔗](#)
 - They have the same semantics as Atom Links
 - Example:

```
> HEAD /orders HTTP/1.1

< Content-Type: application/xml
< Link: <http://company.com/orders/?page=2&size=10>; rel="next"
< Link: <http://company.com/orders/?page=10&size=10>; rel="last"
```
- Advantages
 - no need to get the entire document
 - no need to parse the document to retrieve links
 - use HTTP HEAD only

Preconditions and HATEOAS

- Preconditions in HATEOAS
 - Service in a current state generates only valid transitions that it includes in the representation of the resource.
 - Transition logic is realized at the server-side



Advantages

- Location transparency
 - only "entry-level" links published to the World
 - other links within documents can change without changing client's logic
 - Hypertext represents the current user's view, i.e. rights or other context
- Loose coupling
 - no need for a logic to construct the links
 - Clients know to which states they can move via links
- Statelessness and Cloud
 - Better implementation of scalability

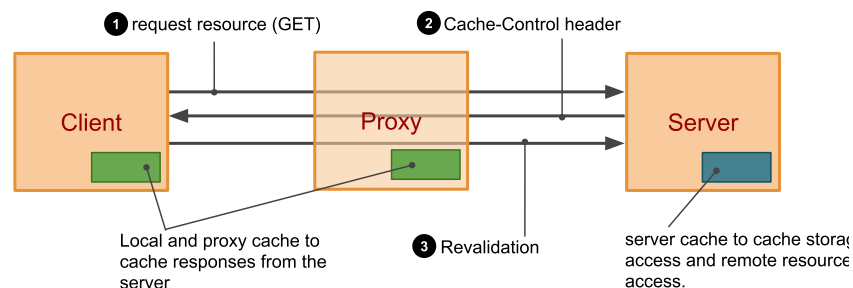
Overview

- HATEOAS
- Caching, Revalidation, Concurrency Control
- Richardson Maturity Model
- SOAP and WSDL

Scalability

- Need for scalability
 - *Huge amount of requests on the Web every day*
 - *Huge amount of data downloaded*
- Some examples
 - *Google, Facebook: 5 billion API calls/day*
 - *Twitter: 3 billions of API calls/day (75% of all the traffic)*
→ *50 million tweets a day*
 - *eBay: 8 billion API calls/month*
 - *Bing: 3 billion API calls/month*
 - *Amazon WS: over 100 billion objects stored in S3*
- Scalability in REST
 - *Caching and revalidation*
 - *Concurrency control*

Caching



- Your service should cache:
 - *anytime there is a static resource*
 - *even there is a dynamic resource*
→ *with chances it updates often*
→ *you can force clients to always revalidate*
- three steps:
 - *client GETs the resource representation*
 - *server controls how it should cache through **Cache-Control** header*
 - *client revalidates the content via conditional GET*

Cache Headers

- **Cache-Control** response header
 - controls over local and proxy caches
 - **private** – no proxy should cache, only clients can
 - **public** – any intermediary can cache (proxies and clients)
 - **no-cache** – the response should not be cached. If it is cached, the content should always be revalidated.
 - **no-store** – can cache but should not store persistently. When a client restarts, content is lost
 - **no-transform** – no transformation of cached data; e.g. compressions
 - **max-age**, **s-maxage** a time in seconds how long the cache is valid; **s-maxage** for proxies
- **Last-Modified** and **ETag** response headers
 - Content last modified date and a content entity tag
- **If-Modified-Since** and **If-None-Match** request headers
 - Content revalidation (conditional GET)

Example Date Revalidation

- Cache control example:

```
> GET /orders HTTP/1.1
> ...

< HTTP/1.1 200 OK
< Content-Type: application/xml
< Cache-Control: private, no-store, max-age=200
< Last-Modified: Sun, 7 Nov 2011, 09:40 CET
<
< ...data...
```

 - only client can cache, must not be stored on the disk, the cache is valid for 200 seconds.
- Revalidation (conditional GET) example:
 - A client revalidates the cache after **200** seconds.

```
> GET /orders HTTP/1.1
> If-Modified-Since: Sun, 7 Nov 2011, 09:40 CET

< HTTP/1.1 304 Not Modified
< Cache-Control: private, no-store, max-age=200
< Last-Modified: Sun, 7 Nov 2011, 09:40 CET
```

Entity Tags

- Signature of the response body
 - A hash such as MD5
 - A sequence number that changes with any modification of the content
- Types of tag
 - Strong ETag: reflects the content bit by bit
 - Weak ETag: reflects the content "semantically"
 - The app defines the meaning of its weak tags
- Example content revalidation with ETag

```
< HTTP/1.1 200 OK
< Cache-Control: private, no-store, max-age=200
< Last-Modified: Sun, 7 Nov 2011, 09:40 CET
< ETag: "4354a5f6423b43a54d"

> GET /orders HTTP/1.1
> If-None-Match: "4354a5f6423b43a54d"

< HTTP/1.1 304 Not Modified
< Cache-Control: private, no-store, max-age=200
< Last-Modified: Sun, 7 Nov 2011, 09:40 CET
< ETag: "4354a5f6423b43a54d"
```

Design Suggestions

- Composed resources use weak ETags
 - For example **/orders**
 - a composed resource that contains a summary information
 - changes to an order's items will not change semantics of **/orders**
 - It is usually not possible to perform updates on these resources
- Non-composed resources use strong ETags
 - For example **/orders/{order-id}**
 - They can be updated
- Further notes
 - Server should send both **Last-Modified** and **ETag** headers
 - If client sends both **If-Modified-Since** and **If-None-Match**, **ETag** validation takes preference

Weak ETag Example

- App specific, **/orders** resource example

```
1  {
2    "orders" :
3    [
4      { "id"      : 2245,
5        "customer" : "Tomas",
6        "descr"    : "Stuff to build a house.",
7        "items"    : [...] },
8      { "id"      : 5546,
9        "customer" : "Peter",
10       "descr"    : "Things to build a pipeline.",
11       "items"    : [...] }
12    ]
13  }
```

- Weak ETag compute function example

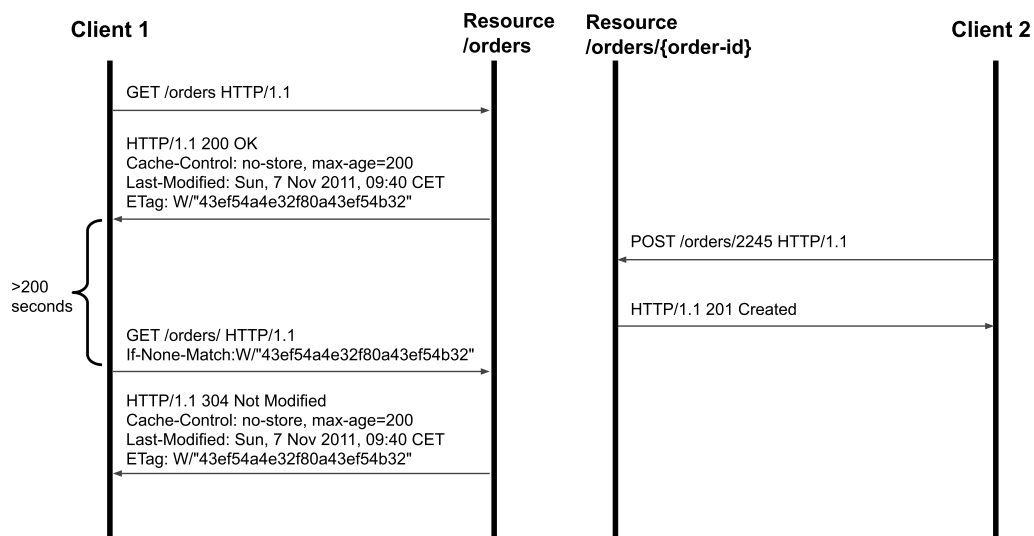
– Any modification to an order's items is not significant for **/orders**:

```
1  var crypto = require("crypto");
2
3  function computeWeakETag(orders) {
4    var content = "";
5    for (var i = 0; i < orders.length; i++)
6      content += orders[i].id + orders[i].customer + orders[i].descr;
7    return crypto.createHash('md5').update(content).digest("hex");
8  }
```

Weak ETag Revalidation

- Updating **/orders** resource

– **POST /orders/{order-id}** inserts a new item to an order
– Any changes to orders' items will not change the Weak ETag

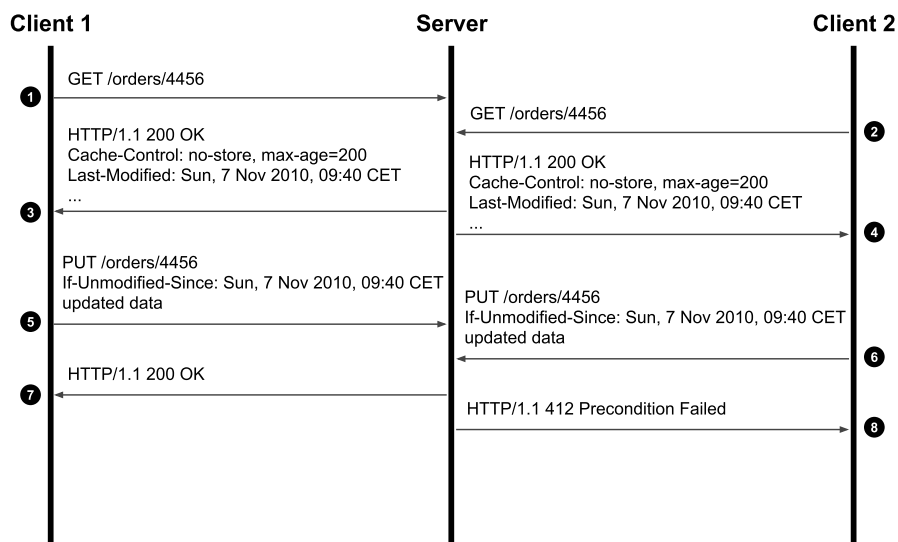


Concurrency

- Two clients may update the same resource
 - 1) a client GETs a resource **GET /orders/5545**
 - 2) the client modifies the resource
 - 3) the client updates the resource via **PUT /orders/5545 HTTP/1.1**

What happens if another client updates the resource between 1) and 3) ?
- Concurrency control
 - Conditional **PUT**
 - Update the resource only if it has not changed since a specified date or a specified ETag matches the resource content
 - **If-Unmodified-Since** and **If-Match** headers
 - Response to conditional **PUT**:
 - **200 OK** if the **PUT** was successful
 - **412 Precondition Failed** if the resource was updated in the meantime.

Concurrency Control Protocol

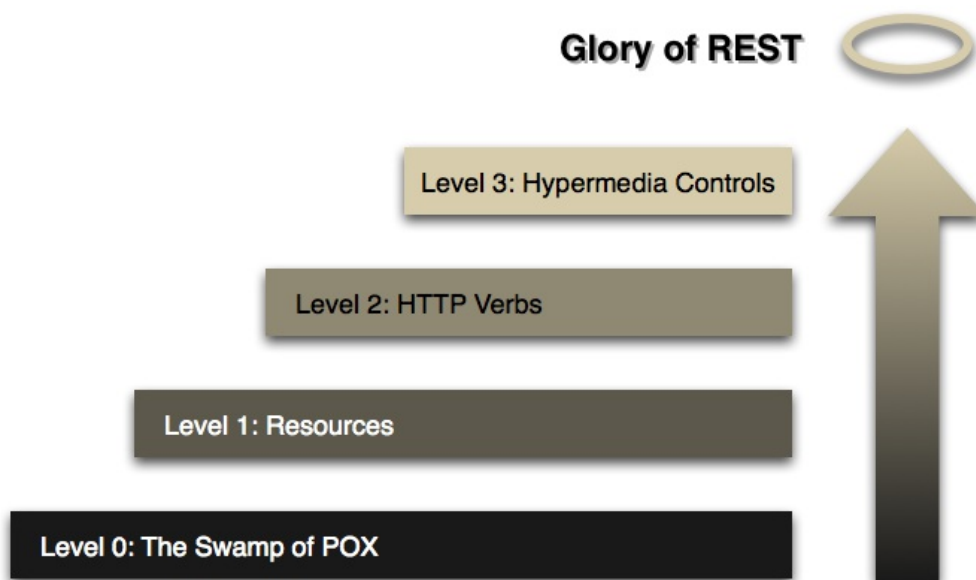


- Conditional PUT and ETags
 - Conditional *PUT* must always use strong entity tags or date validation

Overview

- HATEOAS
- Caching, Revalidation, Concurrency Control
- **Richardson Maturity Model**
- SOAP and WSDL

Steps towards REST



See Richardson Maturity Model [↗](#) details.

Levels

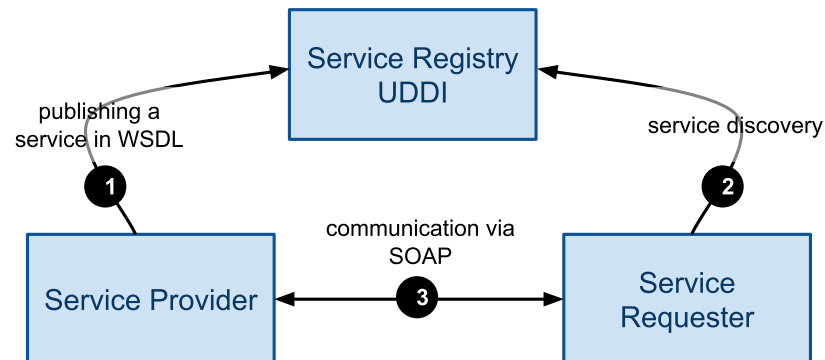
- LEVEL 0 – POX (Plain Old XML)
 - *HTTP as a tunneling mechanism*
 - *URL defines a service endpoint*
 - *No Web principles*
- LEVEL 1 – Resources
 - *Take advantages of resources and URIs*
- LEVEL 2 – HTTP Verbs
 - *Use HTTP methods and respect their semantics*
- LEVEL 3 – Hypermedia Controls
 - *HATEOS*

Overview

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 - *Introduction to SOAP*
 - *WSDL*
 - *WS-Addressing*

Web Service Architecture

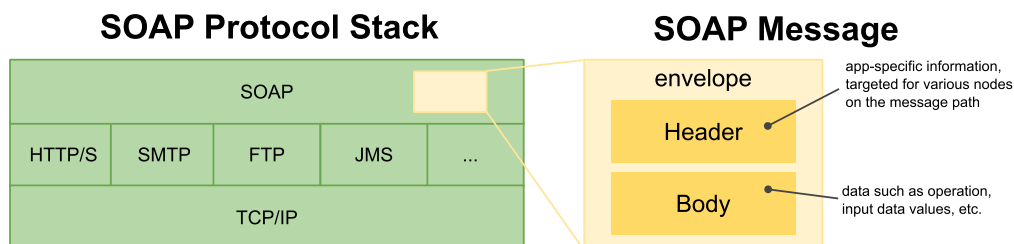
- WSDL, SOAP and UDDI



- *Realization of SOA*
- *Message-Oriented view*
 - *SOAP messaging (header, body)*
 - *types of messages – input, output, fault*

SOAP Protocol

- SOAP defines a messaging framework



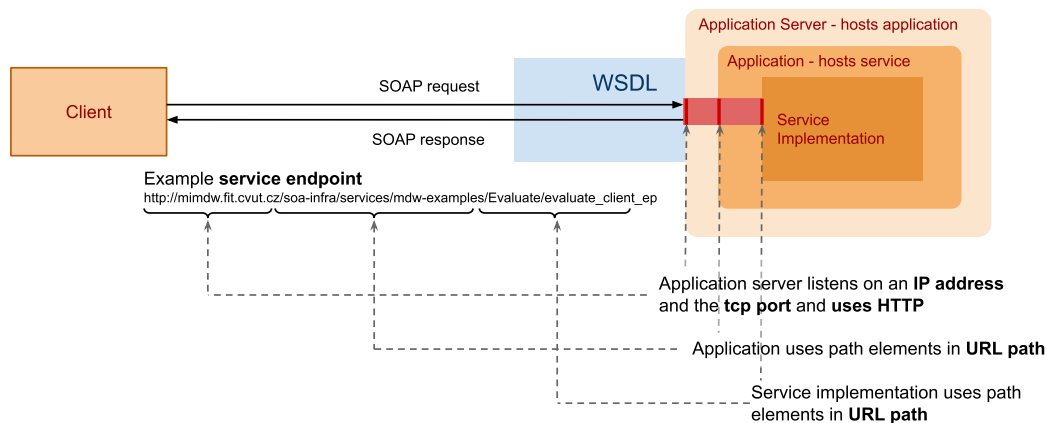
- *XML-based protocol*
- *a layer over transport protocols*
 - *binding to HTTP, SMTP, JMS, ...*
- *involves multiple nodes (message path)*
 - *sender, receiver, intermediary*

SOAP Message

- Envelope
 - *A container of a message*
- Header
 - *Metadata – describe a message, organized in header blocks*
 - *routing information*
 - *security measures implemented in the message*
 - *reliability rules related to delivery of the message*
 - *context and transaction management*
 - *correlation information (request and response message relation)*
 - *WS extensions (WS-*) utilize the message header*
- Body (payload)
 - *Actual contents of the message, XML formatted*
 - *Contains also faults for exception handling*
- Attachment
 - *Data that cannot be serialized into XML such as binary data*

Endpoint

- SOAP service endpoint definition



- *Endpoint – a network address used for communication*
- *Communication – request-response, SOAP messages over a communication (application) protocol*
- *Synchronous communication – only service defines endpoint*
- *Asynchronous communication – service and client define endpoints*

Service Invocation Example (1)

- Example service implementation
 - A service that evaluates an expression
 - Uses SOAP over HTTP
 - We can use standard HTTP tools to invoke the service
- SOAP request message

evaluate-input.xml

```
1 <soap:Envelope xmlns:soap="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/">
2   <soap:Body>
3     <ns1:evaluateRequest
4       xmlns:ns1="http://xmlns.oracle.com/mdw_examples/Evaluate/evalu
5         <ns1:x>12</ns1:x>
6         <ns1:y>18</ns1:y>
7       </ns1:evaluateRequest>
8     </soap:Body>
9 </soap:Envelope>
```

- Invoking the service using `curl`

```
1 curl -s -X POST --header "Content-Type: text/xml; charset=UTF-8" \
2 --header "SOAPAction: \"evaluate\"" --data @evaluate-input.xml \
3 http://mimdw.fit.cvut.cz/soa-infra/services/mdw-examples/Evaluate/evaluate_cli
```

Service Invocation Example (2)

- Invocation result

```
1 * About to connect() to mimdw.fit.cvut.cz port 80 (#0)
2 * Trying 147.32.233.55... connected
3 * Connected to sb.vitvar.com (147.32.233.55) port 80 (#0)
4 > POST /soa-infra/services/mdw-examples/Evaluate/evaluate_client_ep HTTP/1.1
5 > User-Agent: curl/7.19.7 (x86_64-redhat-linux-gnu) libcurl/7.19.7 NSS/3.14.0.
6 > Host: mimdw.fit.cvut.cz
7 > Accept: */*
8 > Content-Type: text/xml; charset=UTF-8
9 > SOAPAction: "evaluate"
10 > Content-Length: 302
11 >
12 } [data not shown]
13 < HTTP/1.1 200 OK
14 < Date: Sun, 17 Nov 2013 11:24:59 GMT
15 < Server: Oracle-Application-Server-11g
16 < Content-Length: 569
17 < X-ORACLE-DMS-ECID: 004upqiWhdD0zkWVlybQ8A0005uX0004Y^
18 < SOAPAction: ""
19 < X-Powered-By: Servlet/2.5 JSP/2.1
20 < Content-Type: text/xml; charset=UTF-8
21 < Content-Language: en
```

Service Invocation Example (3)

- SOAP response message

```
1  <?xml version="1.0"?>
2  <env:Envelope xmlns:env="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/"
3      xmlns:wsa="http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing">
4      <env:Header>
5          <wsa:MessageID>urn:E42018C04F7A11E3BFD5D1953058407C</wsa:MessageID>
6      </env:Header>
7      <env:Body>
8          <evaluateResponse
9              xmlns="http://xmlns.oracle.com/mdw_examples/Evaluate/evaluate">
10             <result>30</result>
11          </evaluateResponse>
12      </env:Body>
13  </env:Envelope>
```

Client Implementation

- WSDL – Web Service Description Language
 - definitions for the client to know how to communicate with the service
 - which operations it can use
 - data formats for input (request), output (response) and fault messages
 - how to serialize the data as payloads of a communication protocol (binding)
 - where the service is physically present on the network
- Clients' environments
 - Clients implemented in a language such as Java
 - Tools to generate service API for the client, e.g. WSDL2Java
 - Can be written manually too, e.g. our example in bash
 - Clients reside on the middleware, e.g. on an Enterprise Service Bus
 - They provide added values in end-to-end communication, proxy services, SOAP intermediaries

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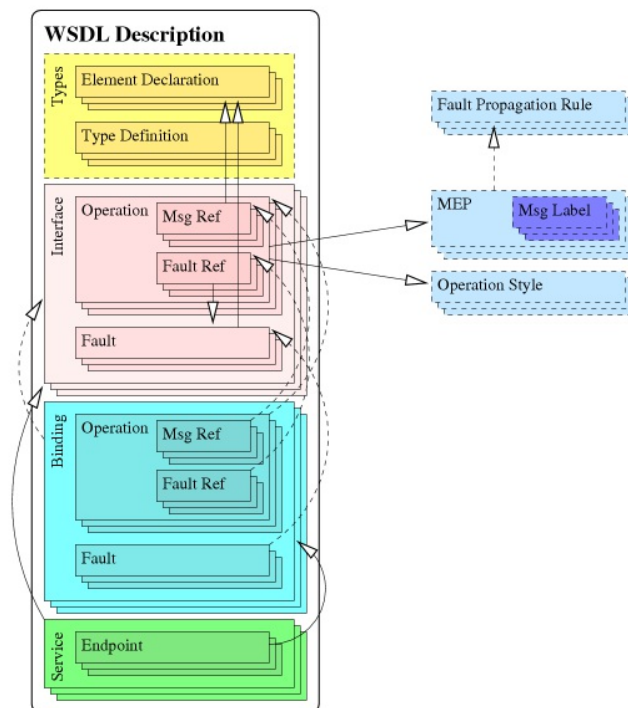
Specifications

- WSDL = Web Service Description Language
 - *A standard that allows to describe Web services explicitly (main aspects)*
 - *A contract between a requester and a provider*
- Specifications
 - *WSDL 1.1 – still widely used*
 - *Web Service Description Language 1.1* [↗](#)
 - *WSDL 2.0 – An attempt to address several issues with WSDL 1.1*
 - *SOAP vs. REST, naming, expressivity*
 - *WSDL 2.0 Primer (part 0)* [↗](#)
 - *WSDL 2.0 Core Language (part 1)* [↗](#)

WSDL Overview and WSDL 1.1 Syntax

- Components of WSDL
 - Information model (**types**)
 - Element types, message declarations (XML Schema)
 - Set of operations (**portType**)
 - A set of operations is "interface" in the WSDL terminology
 - operation name, input, output, fault
 - Binding (**binding**)
 - How messages are transferred over the network using a concrete transport protocol
 - Transport protocols: HTTP, SMTP, FTP, JMS, ...
 - Endpoint (**service**)
 - Where the service is physically present on the network
- Types of WSDL documents
 - **Abstract WSDL** – only information model and a set of operations
 - **Concrete WSDL** – everything, a concrete service available in the environment

WSDL Components and Dependencies



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Overview

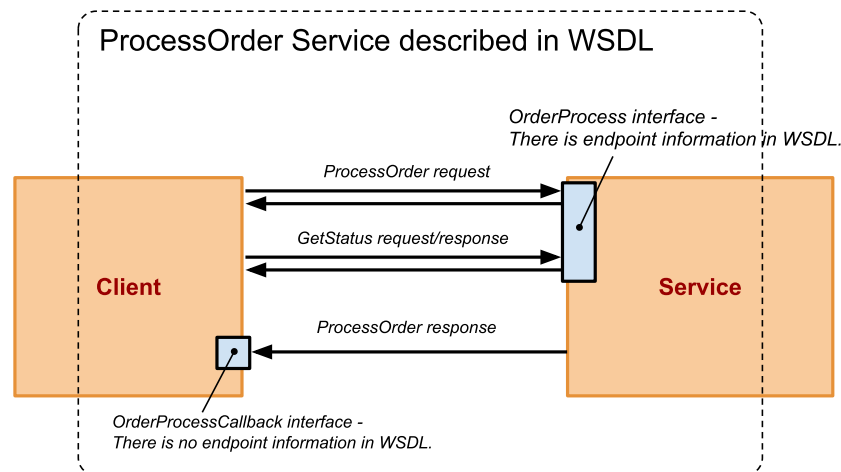
- WS-Addressing
 - *W3C Recommendation, May 2006* [🔗](#)
 - *A transport-independent mechanisms for web services to communicate addressing information*
 - *WSDL describes WS-Addressing as a policy attached to a WSDL binding*

```
1 <binding name="OrderProcessBinding" type="op:OrderProcess">
2   <soap:binding transport="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/http"/>
3   <PolicyReference xmlns:wsp="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2004/09/polic
4     URI="#wsaddr_policy" wsdl:required="false"/>
```

- Two main purposes
 1. *Asynchronous communication*
 - *Client sends an endpoint where the server should send a response asynchronously*
 2. *Relating interactions to a conversation*
 - *Client and service communicate conversation ID*

Order Processing Example

- Asynchronous communication via callback, steps:
 - Client submits an order request
 - Service starts processing of the order (CRM, OMS, back-office)
 - Client can retrieve the order status
 - Service responds asynchronously with an order response message



Interface Example (1)

- Order process complex conversation
 - The client invokes **processOrder**.
 - The service responds back **synchronously** with order status.
 - The client gets the status of order processing by invoking synchronous **getStatus** operation (this can be invoked several times).
 - The service responds back **asynchronously** by invoking **processOrderResponse** – callback on client's interface
- Interface implemented by the order process service
 - getStatus** operation must be executed in the same **conversation** as **processOrder** operation

```
1 <portType name="OrderProcess">
2   <operation name="processOrder">
3     <input message="op:OrderProcessRequestMessage"/>
4     <output message="op:OrderStatusResponseMessage"/>
5   </operation>
6   <operation name="getStatus">
7     <input message="op:OrderStatusRequestMessage"/>
8     <output message="op:OrderStatusResponseMessage"/>
9   </operation>
10 </portType>
```

Interface Example (2)

- Interface implemented by the client

```
1 <portType name="OrderProcessCallback">
2   <operation name="processOrderResponse">
3     <input message="op:OrderProcessResponseMessage"/>
4     <fault message="op:OrderProcessFaultMessage"/>
5   </operation>
6 </portType>
```

ProcessOrder Request Message

- Client sends process order request – **processOrder**
 - it sends addressing information where the client listens for the callback
 - it sends conversation ID (message ID) to start the conversation on the server

```
1 > POST /soa-intra/services/mdw-examples/ProcessOrder/orderprocess_client_ep HTTP/1.1
2 > Host: mimdw.fit.cvut.cz
3 > Content-Type: text/xml; charset=UTF-8
4 > SOAPAction: "processOrder"
5 > Content-Length: 810
6
7 <soap:Envelope xmlns:soap="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/"
8   xmlns:ord="http://mimdw.fit.cvut.cz/mdw-examples/cdm/order">
9   <soap:Header xmlns:wsa="http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing">
10     <wsa:ReplyTo>
11       <wsa:Address>http://192.168.94.110:2233/path/to/service</wsa:Address>
12     </wsa:ReplyTo>
13     <wsa:MessageID>urn:AXYYBA00531111E3BFACA780A7E5AF64</wsa:MessageID>
14   </soap:Header>
15   <soap:Body>
16     <ord:Order>
17       <ord:CustomerId>1</ord:CustomerId>
18       <ord:LineItems>
19         <ord:item>
20           <ord:label>Apple MacBook Pro</ord:label>
21           <ord:action>ADD</ord:action>
22         </ord:item>
23       </ord:LineItems>
24     </ord:Order>
25   </soap:Body>
26 </soap:Envelope>
```


GetStatus Request Message

- Client sends get status request – **getStatus**
 - after it invokes **processOrder** with conversation ID (message ID)
 - it uses the same conversation ID for get status request too
 - the request will be processed by the running service instance

```
1 > POST /soa-infra/services/mdw-examples/ProcessOrder/orderprocess_client_ep HTTP/1.1
2 > Host: mimdw.fit.cvut.cz
3 > Content-Type: text/xml; charset=UTF-8
4 > SOAPAction: "getStatus"
5 > Content-Length: 472
6
7 <soap:Envelope xmlns:soap="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/">
8   <soap:Header xmlns:wsa="http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing">
9     <wsa:RelatesTo>urn:AXYYBA00531111E3BFACA780A7E5AF64</wsa:RelatesTo>
10   </soap:Header>
11   <soap:Body>
12     <ns1:StatusRequest
13       xmlns:ns1="http://mimdw.fit.cvut.cz/mdw_examples/ProcessOrder/OrderProces
14     <ns1:process-id>18a9baec2d5ac0a2:64d155de:1425c4185f1:-7ff2</ns1:process-
15     </ns1:StatusRequest>
16   </soap:Body>
17 </soap:Envelope>
```