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# An introduction to Web Services, UDDI, and SOAP

# Agenda

- Introduction
- Web Services
- WSDL
- UDDI
- SOAP
- SOAP in J2EE

# Introduction

- The term "Web service" can be used in two senses
  - Generic: any service offered through the HTTP protocol
  - Specific: W3C Web Services
- HTTP is used for machine-to-machine communication
  - machine-readable formats such as XML and JSON
- Typical use case: OO Web-based interface to a DB server
- Many organizations with Web pages also provide the same data through a Web service to allow **syndication** 
  - e.g., Wikipedia's Export.
- Another application is **mashup**, where a Web server calls several Web services and compiles the content into one user interface



# Web Syndication

- A form of syndication
  - Originated in media such as print, radio, and television
  - Allows content creators to reach a wider audience
- Content is made available from one Web site to other sites
  - Summaries or full renditions of recently added content
  - On a subscription basis, for free, or barter
- Popular Web feed syndication formats:
  - **RSS** (Rich Site Summary / Really Simple Syndication)
  - Atom, born to overcome limitations of RSS
- Content creators: (+) amortize costs; (-) may lose control
- Content distributors: (+) cheap content; (-) not exclusive

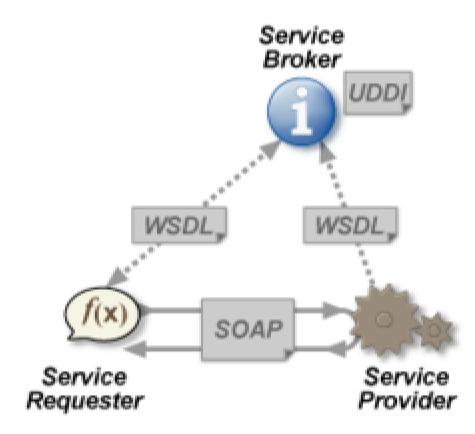
# **Generic Web Services**

- Good news: you know a few of them already!
  - AJAX
  - REST-compliant Web services
  - RESTful APIs
- Can use markup languages
  - Web-Service Description Language (WSDL)
  - Web-Service Conversation Language (WSCL)
  - Web-Services Flow Language (WSFL), superseded by BPEL (Business Process Execution Language)
- Or other formats:
  - JSON-WSP, a protocol based on JSON

# W3C Web Services

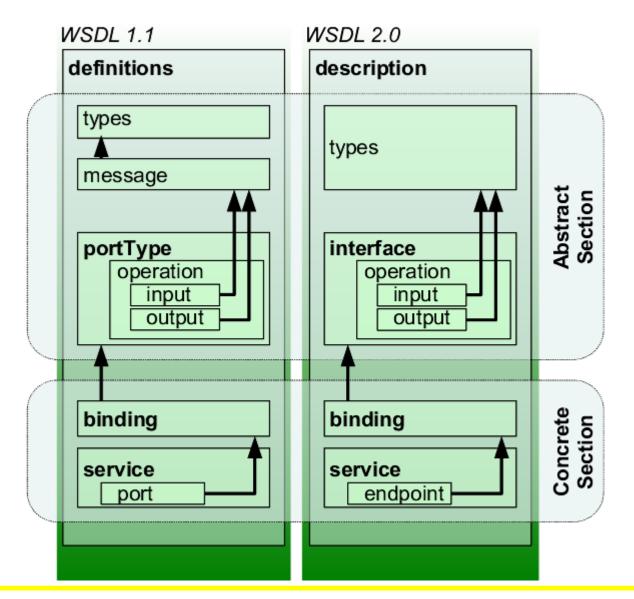
- A Web service is a software system designed to support interoperable machine-to-machine interaction over a network.
- It has an interface described in a machine-processable format (specifically, WSDL).
- Other systems interact with the Web service in a manner prescribed by its description using SOAP-messages,
  - typically conveyed using HTTP with an XML serialization
  - in conjunction with other web-related standards
- SOAP over other protocols (e.g., FTP) is possible as well
- A service broker is needed to make services "discoverable"
  - UDDI is a standard for that purpose

### Web Services Architecture



# Web Service Description Language (WSDL)

- Rules for communication between different systems need to be defined, such as:
  - How one system can request data from another system
  - Which specific parameters are needed in the data request
  - What would be the structure of the data produced
  - What error messages to display when a certain rule for communication is not observed, to make troubleshooting easier.
- All of these rules for communication are defined in a WSDL file
- WSDL is based on XML



### WSDL Example

#### <?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>

#### <description xmlns="http://www.w3.org/ns/wsdl"

xmlns:tns="http://www.tmsws.com/wsdl20sample" xmlns:whttp="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/http/" xmlns:wsoap="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/soap/" targetNamespace="http://www.tmsws.com/wsdl20sample">

<documentation>

This is a sample WSDL 2.0 document. </documentation>

#### <!-- Abstract type -->

#### <types>

<xs:schema xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema" xmlns="http://www.tmsws.com/wsdl20sample" targetNamespace="http://www.example.com/wsdl20sample">

<xs:element name="request"> ... </xs:element>

<xs:element name="response"> ... </xs:element>

</xs:schema>

</types>

#### <!-- Abstract interfaces -->

<interface name="Interface1"> <fault name="Error1" element="tns:response"/> <operation name="Get" pattern="http://www.w3.org/ns/wsdl/in-out"> <input messageLabel="In" element="tns:request"/> <output messageLabel="Out" element="tns:response"/> </operation> </interface>

#### <!-- Concrete Binding Over HTTP -->

<br/><binding name="HttpBinding" interface="tns:Interface1" type="http://www.w3.org/ns/wsdl/http"> <operation ref="tns:Get" whttp:method="GET"/> </binding>

#### <!-- Concrete Binding with SOAP-->

<br/><binding name="SoapBinding" interface="tns:Interface1"<br/>type="http://www.w3.org/ns/wsdl/soap"<br/>wsoap:protocol="http://www.w3.org/2003/05/soap/bindings/HTTP/"<br/>wsoap:mepDefault="<br/>http://www.w3.org/2003/05/soap/mep/request-response">

<operation ref="tns:Get" />

</binding>

#### <!-- Web Service offering endpoints for both bindings-->

<service name="Service1" interface="tns:Interface1">

<endpoint name="HttpEndpoint" binding="tns:HttpBinding" address="http://www.example.com/rest/"/>

<endpoint name="SoapEndpoint" binding="tns:SoapBinding" address="http://www.example.com/soap/"/>

</service>

#### </description>

# Universal Description, Discovery, and Integration (UDDI)

- A directory which defines which software system should be contacted for which type of data.
- When one software system needs one particular report/data, it would go to the UDDI and find out which other system it can contact for receiving that data.
- Once the software system finds out which other system it should contact, it would then contact that system using a special protocol called SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol).
- The service provider system would first validate the data request by referring to the WSDL file, and then process the request and send the data under the SOAP protocol.

# Structure of UDDI

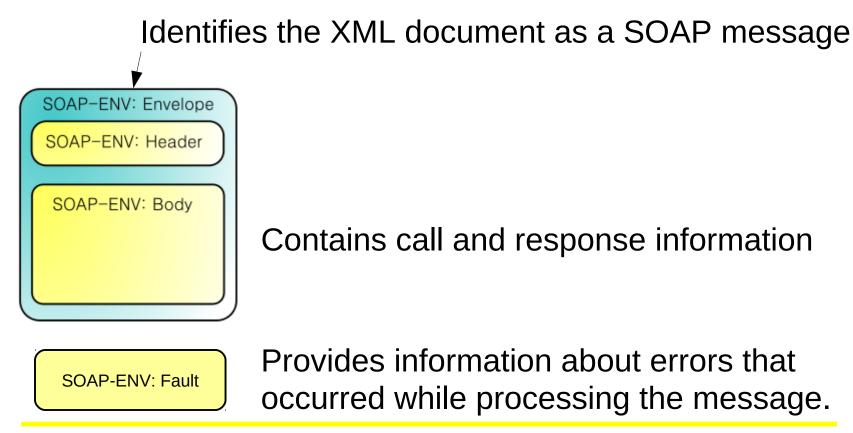
A UDDI business registration consists of three components:

- White Pages
  - address, contact, and known identifiers
- Yellow Pages
  - industrial categorizations based on standard taxonomies, like SIC, NAICS, UNSPCSC, …
- Green Pages
  - technical information about services exposed
  - how to access each Web service
  - information on the service bindings

# Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP)

- Messaging protocol to exchange structured information
- Developed for Web services
- Goal: to provide extensibility, neutrality, and independence.
- Uses XML Information Set for its message format
- Relies on application-layer protocols, like HTTP, FTP, or SMTP
- SOAP allows clients to invoke Web services and receive responses independently of language and platforms.
- The verbosity of the protocol, slow parsing speed of XML, and lack of a standardized interaction model led to the domination in the field by RESTful services, using HTTP more directly

# SOAP Message Structure



# SOAP Example

POST /InStock HTTP/1.1 Host: www.example.org Content-Type: application/soap+xml; charset=utf-8 Content-Length: 299 SOAPAction: "http://www.w3.org/2003/05/soap-envelope"

<?xml version="1.0"?>

<soap:Envelope xmlns:soap="http://www.w3.org/2003/05/soap-envelope" xmlns:m="http://www.example.org">

<soap:Header>

</soap:Header>

<soap:Body>

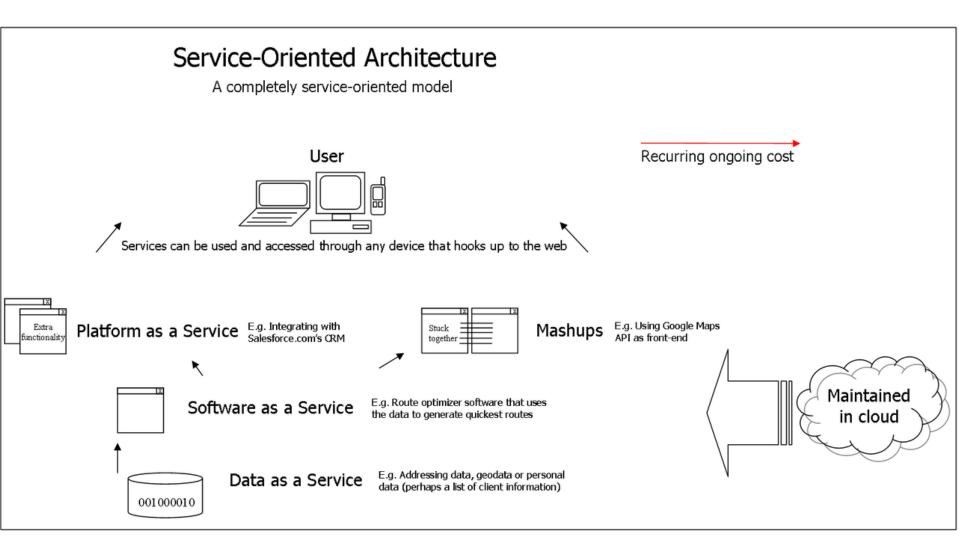
<m:GetStockPrice>

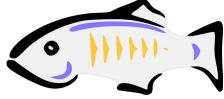
<m:StockName>GOOG</m:StockName>

</m:GetStockPrice>

</soap:Body>

</soap:Envelope>





### J2EE Support of Web Services

- With the release of Java 6, the Java EE platform provides a comprehensive support of Web services (the Metro stack):
  - JAX-WS provides a complete framework for the development of both SOAP-based and RESTful Java Web services
  - JAXB assists JAX-WS in processing XML by allowing easy binding of XML schema to standard Java formats
  - WSIT extends JAX-WS to allow Java-based web services to interact with .NET and other WCF components.
  - XWS-Security configuration of security policies
  - JAX-RPC legacy support for RPC-based services
- Glassfish application server

