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Introduction to Web Services

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Agenda

- Web Technologies
- What are Web Services?
- Styles of Web Services
- Why Web Services?
- Web Services Architecture and Standards
- Where are Web Services?
- Web Services Development

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Traditional Web Application vs. Web Services

- Traditional Web Application
  - User-to-program interaction
  - Static integration of components
  - Monolithic service
- Web Services
  - Program-to-program interaction
  - Dynamic integration of components
  - Service aggregation

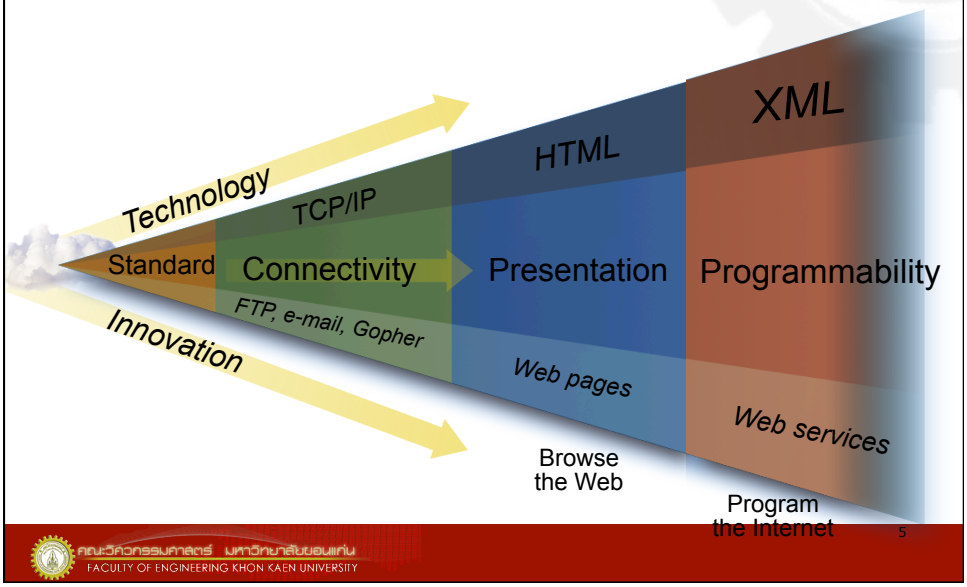
Distributed Computing Technologies

Client-server silos

Web-based computing

Web Services/Peer-to-Peer

Internet Evolution



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What are Web Services? (1/2)

- Excerpt from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web_service
- Web services are typically application programming interfaces (API) or Web APIs that are accessed via Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) and executed on a remote system hosting the requested services
- Web services tend to fall into one of two camps: big Web services and RESTful Web services.

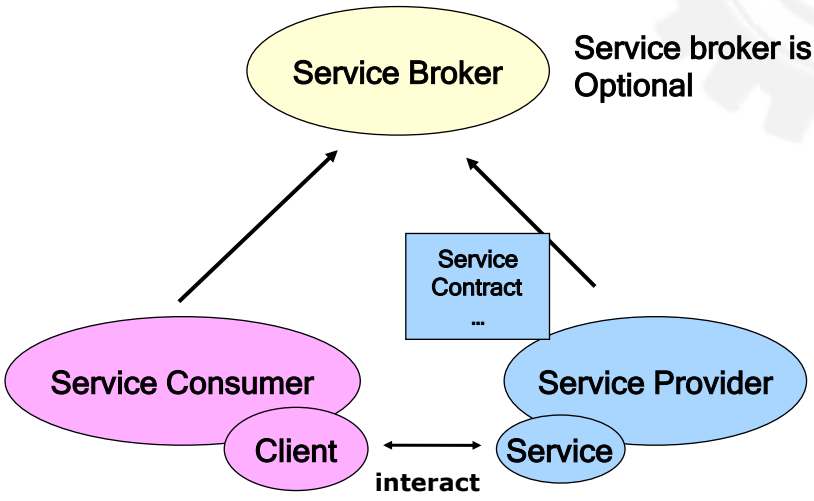
Big Web Services

- "Big Web services" use Extensible Markup Language (XML) messages that follow the SOAP standard and have been popular with traditional enterprise
- In such systems, there is often a machine-readable description of the operations offered by the service written in the Web Services Description Language (WSDL)
- The latter is not a requirement of a SOAP endpoint, but it is a prerequisite for automated client-side code generation in many Java and .NET SOAP frameworks

Web API

- Web API is a development in Web services (in a movement called Web 2.0)
- Emphasis has been moving away from SOAP based services towards Representational State Transfer (REST) based communications
- REST services do not require XML, SOAP, or WSDL service-API definitions.

Big Web Services Architecture



Characteristics of Big Web Services

- XML based everywhere
- Message-based
- Programming language independent
- Could be dynamically located
- Could be dynamically assembled or aggregated
- Accessed over the internet
- Loosely coupled
- Based on industry standards

Web APIs and Mashups

- Web APIs allow the combination of multiple Web services into new applications known as mashups
- When used in the context of Web development, Web API is typically a defined set of Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) request messages along with a definition of the structure of response messages, usually expressed in two formats
  - An Extensible Markup Language (XML)
  - JavaScript Object Notation (JSON)

Open Research Issues of Web API

- When running composite Web services, each sub service can be considered autonomous
- The user has no control over these services. Also the Web services themselves are not reliable; the service provider may remove, change or update their services without giving notice to users
- The reliability and fault tolerance is not well supported; faults may happen during the execution

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Web Services Styles

- Web services are a set of tools that can be used in a number of ways
- The three most common styles of use are
  - RPC
  - SOA
  - REST

RPC Web Services

- RPC Web services present a distributed function (or method) call interface that is familiar with many developers
- Typically, the basic unit of RPC Web services is the WSDL operation.
- The first Web services tools were focused on RPC, and as a result this style is widely deployed and supported

Disadvantages of RPC

- However, it is sometimes criticized for not being loosely coupled
  - It was often implemented by mapping services directly to language-specific functions or method calls
- Many vendors felt this approach to be a dead end, and pushed for RPC to be disallowed in the WS-I Basic Profile

Service-oriented architecture

- Web services can also be used to implement an architecture according to Service-oriented architecture (SOA) concepts
- The basic unit of communication is a message, rather than an operation
- This is often referred to as "message-oriented" services.
- Unlike RPC Web services, loose coupling is more likely, because the focus is on the "contract" that WSDL provides, rather than the underlying implementation details

Disadvantages of Non-RESTful

- Critics of non-RESTful Web services often complain that they are too complex and based upon large software vendors or integrators, rather than typical open source implementations.
- The client-side classes that can be generated from WSDL and XSD descriptions of the service are often similarly tied to a particular version of the SOAP endpoint and can break if the endpoint changes or the client-side SOAP stack is upgraded

Representational state transfer (REST)

- REST attempts to describe architectures which use HTTP or similar protocols by constraining the interface to a set of well-known, standard operations (like GET, POST, PUT, DELETE for HTTP)
- Here, the focus is on interacting with stateful resources, rather than messages or operations

RESTful

- An architecture based on REST (one that is 'RESTful') can use WSDL to describe SOAP messaging over HTTP, can be implemented as an abstraction purely on top of SOAP (e.g., WS-Transfer), or can be created without using SOAP at all
- WSDL version 2.0 offers support for binding to all the HTTP request methods (not only GET and POST as in version 1.1)
  - It enables a better implementation of RESTful Web services

Design Methodologies

- Web services can be written in two ways:

1) “Bottom Up Method”
  - A developer using the "bottom up method" first writes the implementing class in a programming language, and then uses a WSDL generating tool to expose its methods as a web service.
  - This is often the simpler approach

Design Methodologies

2) “Top Down Method”

- A developer using the "top down method" first writes the WSDL document and then uses a code generating tool to produce the class skeleton, which he later completes.
- This way is generally considered more difficult but can produce cleaner designs

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Web Services Enabled through XML

New user experience
Software for smart device
Connected Web services

→ Enabled through XML

Why Web Services? (1/3)

- Platform neutral
- Accessible in a standard way
- Accessible in an interoperable way
- Use simple and ubiquitous tools
- Relatively cheap
- Simplify enterprise integration

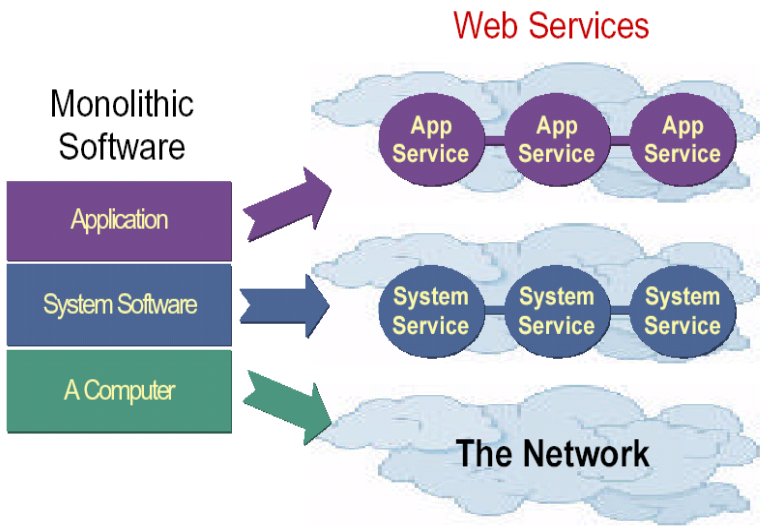
Why Web Services? (2/3)

- Interoperable – Connect across heterogeneous networks using ubiquitous web-based standards
- Economical – Recycle components, no installation and tight integration of software
- Automatic – No human intervention required even for highly complex transactions

Why Web Services? (3/3)

- Accessible – Legacy assets & internal applications are exposed and accessible on the Web
- Available – Services on any device, anywhere, and anytime
- Scalable – No limits on scope of applications and amount of heterogeneous applications

Impact of Web Services



Myths about Web Services (1/2)

- Web Services are something completely new
  - Web services is distributed computing all over again – only now it is based on the web
  - Web services are XML-based
- You have to write Web Services from scratch
  - Tools available for developing Web services, such as MS .NET, Apache Axis, J2EE, and Systinet

Myths about Web Services (2/2)

- Web services require only SOAP, WSDL, and UDDI
  - We need more high-level semantics
- Web services are based on the RPC paradigm
  - Document-driven model would be more popular communication model
- Web services must be based on HTTP
  - Other transports such as SMTP can also be used

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Web Services Standards

- XML (Extensible Markup Language)
- SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol)
- WSDL (Web Services Description Language)
- JSON (JavaScript Object Notation)

Extensible Markup Language

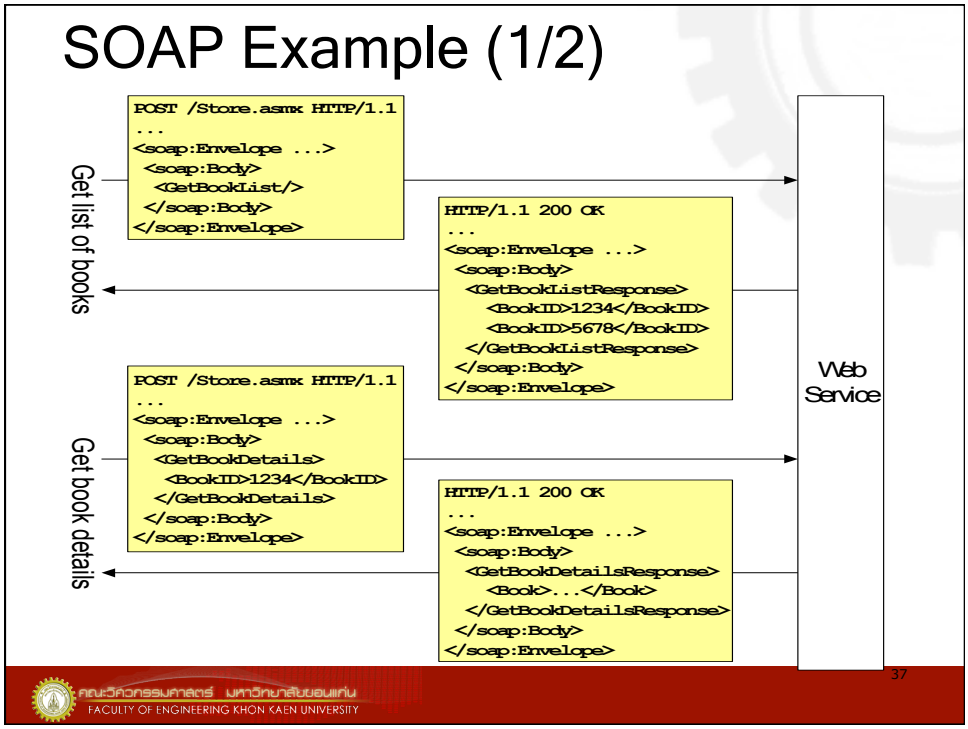
- Text-based Markup Language
- Markup is the extra information for describing and formatting data
- Standard language for exchanging and representing data on the Internet
- Both XML and HTML are markup languages
  - NSC
  - <event>NSC</event>

Sample XML Document

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<nation>
    <name>Thailand</name>
    <location>Southeast Asia</
location>
</nation>
```


SOAP

- SOAP stands for Simple Object Access Protocol
- SOAP is a lightweight protocol intended for exchanging structured information
- SOAP uses XML technologies to define an extensible messaging framework
- The framework has been designed to be independent of any particular programming model and other implementation specific semantics


SOAP Example (1/2)
Get list of books
POST /Store.asmx HTTP/1.1
...
<soap:Envelope ...>
<soap:Body>
<GetBookList/>
</soap:Body>
</soap:Envelope>
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
...
<soap:Envelope ...>
<soap:Body>
<GetBookListResponse>
<BookID>1234</BookID>
<BookID>5678</BookID>
</GetBookListResponse>
</soap:Body>
</soap:Envelope>
Get book details
POST /Store.asmx HTTP/1.1
...
<soap:Envelope ...>
<soap:Body>
<GetBookDetails>
<BookID>1234</BookID>
</GetBookDetails>
</soap:Body>
</soap:Envelope>
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
...
<soap:Envelope ...>
<soap:Body>
<GetBookDetailsResponse>
<Book>...</Book>
</GetBookDetailsResponse>
</soap:Body>
</soap:Envelope>
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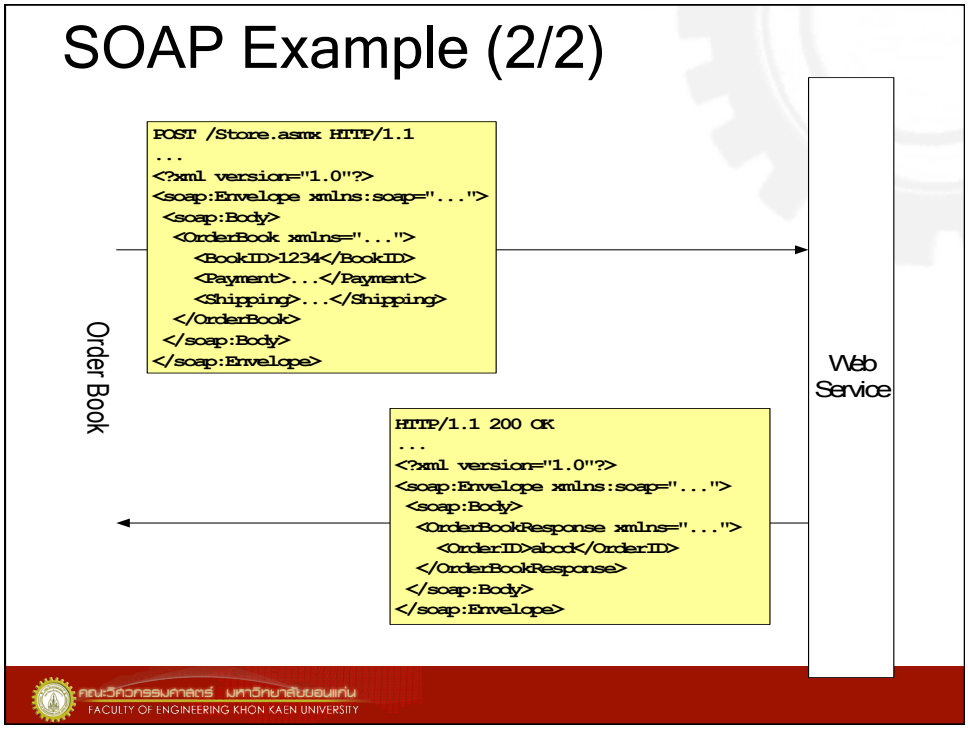
SOAP Example (2/2)
Order Book
POST /Store.asmx HTTP/1.1
...
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<soap:Envelope xmlns:soap="...">
<soap:Body>
<OrderBook xmlns="...">
<BookID>1234</BookID>
<Payment>...</Payment>
<Shipping>...</Shipping>
</OrderBook>
</soap:Body>
</soap:Envelope>
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
...
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<soap:Envelope xmlns:soap="...">
<soap:Body>
<OrderBookResponse xmlns="...">
<OrderID>abook</OrderID>
</OrderBookResponse>
</soap:Body>
</soap:Envelope>
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WSDL

- WSDL stands for Web Services Description Language
- XML language for describing web services
- XML service is described as
  - A set of communication endpoints (ports)
- Endpoint is made of two parts
  - Abstract definition of operations and messages
  - Concrete binding to networking protocol and message format

Sample WSDL

www.xignite.com/xGlobalQu

www.xignite.com/xGlobalQuotes.asmx?wsdl

Docs Gmail Facebook YouTube Dropbox ScholarOne Manusc BN บทเรียนของ GotoKnow User-Centered Desi Online College Class

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

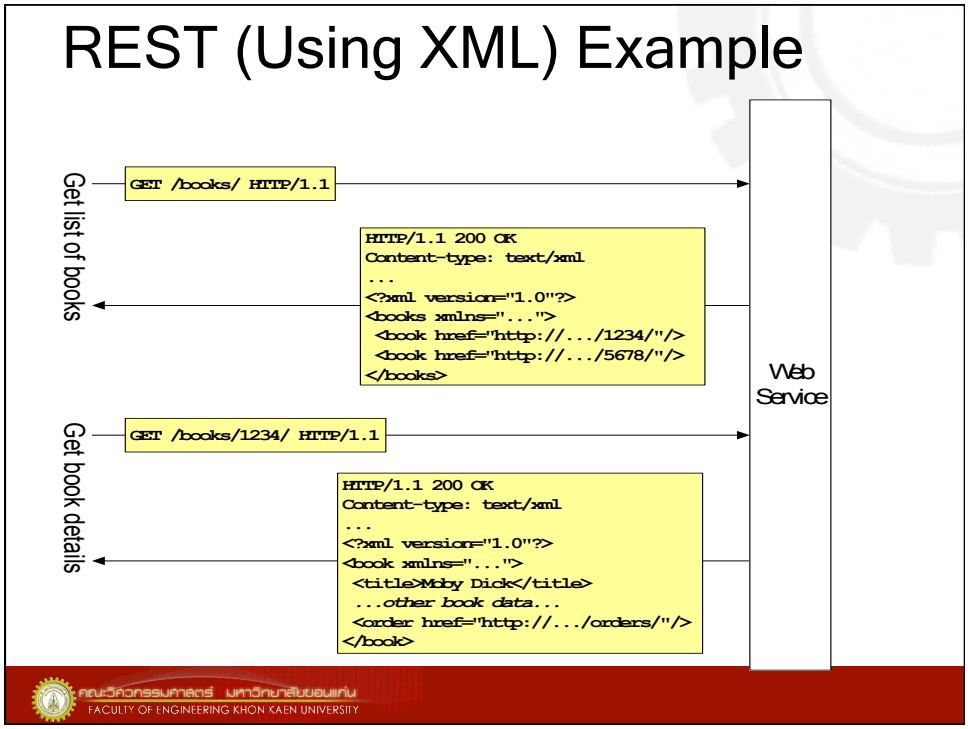
```
▼<wsdl:definitions xmlns:s="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema" xmlns:soap12="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/soap12/"
 xmlns:mime="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/mime/" xmlns:tns="http://www.xignite.com/services/" xmlns:soap="http://schemas.xmlsoap
 xmlns:tm="http://microsoft.com/wsdl/mime/textMatching/" xmlns:http="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/http/"
 xmlns:soapenc="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/encoding/" xmlns:wsdl="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/" targetNamespace="http://ww
  ▼<wsdl:documentation xmlns:wsdl="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/">
     This web service provides global delayed stock quotes and for U.S. and international equities.
   </wsdl:documentation>
  ▼<wsdl:types>
    ▼<s:schema elementFormDefault="qualified" targetNamespace="http://www.xignite.com/services/">
      ▼<s:element name="GetGlobalDelayedQuote">
        ▼<s:complexType>
          ▼<s:sequence>
             <s:element minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="1" name="Identifier" type="s:string"/>
             <s:element minOccurs="1" maxOccurs="1" name="IdentifierType" type="tns:IdentifierTypes"/>
           </s:sequence>
         </s:complexType>
       </s:element>
      ▼<s:simpleType name="IdentifierTypes">
        ▼<s:restriction base="s:string">
           <s:enumeration value="Symbol"/>
           <s:enumeration value="CIK"/>
           <s:enumeration value="CUSIP"/>
           <s:enumeration value="ISIN"/>
           <s:enumeration value="Valoren"/>
           <s:enumeration value="SEDOL"/>
         </s:restriction>
       </s:simpleType>
      ▼<s:element name="GetGlobalDelayedQuoteResponse">
        ▼<s:complexType>
          ▼<s:sequence>
             <s:element minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="1" name="GetGlobalDelayedQuoteResult" type="tns:GlobalQuote"/>
           </s:sequence>
         </s:complexType>
       </s:element>
```

What is REST? (1/2)

- **Representational State Transfer** (**REST**) is a style of software architecture for distributed hypermedia systems such as the World Wide Web
- The term was introduced in the doctoral dissertation of Roy Fielding in 2000, one of the principal authors of the Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) specification

What is REST? (2/2)

- REST strictly refers to a collection of network architecture principles that outline how resources are defined and addressed
- The term is often used in a looser sense to describe any simple interface that transmits domain-specific data over HTTP without an additional messaging layer such as SOAP or session tracking via HTTP cookies.


REST (Using XML) Example
Get list of books
GET /books/ HTTP/1.1
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-type: text/xml
...
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<books xmlns="...">
<book href="http://.../1234/"/>
<book href="http://.../5678/"/>
</books>
Get book details
GET /books/1234/ HTTP/1.1
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-type: text/xml
...
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<book xmlns="...">
<title>Moby Dick</title>
...other book data...
<order href="http://.../orders/"/>
</book>
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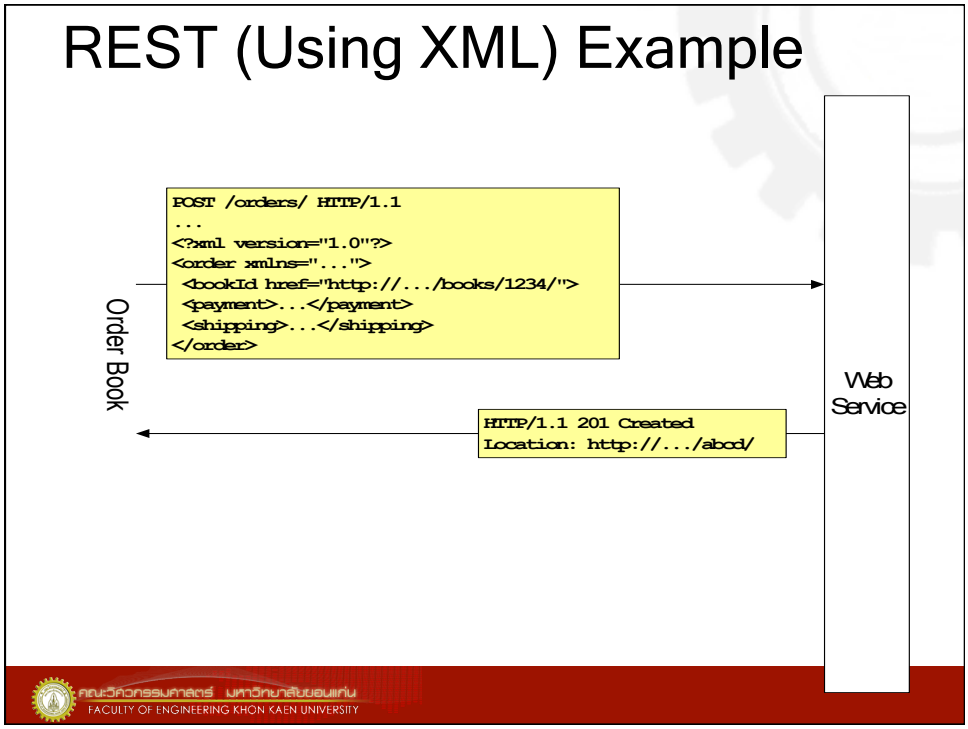
REST (Using XML) Example
Order Book
POST /orders/ HTTP/1.1
...
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<order xmlns="...">
<bookId href="http://.../books/1234/">
<payment>...</payment>
<shipping>...</shipping>
</order>
HTTP/1.1 201 Created
Location: http://.../abcd/
Web Service
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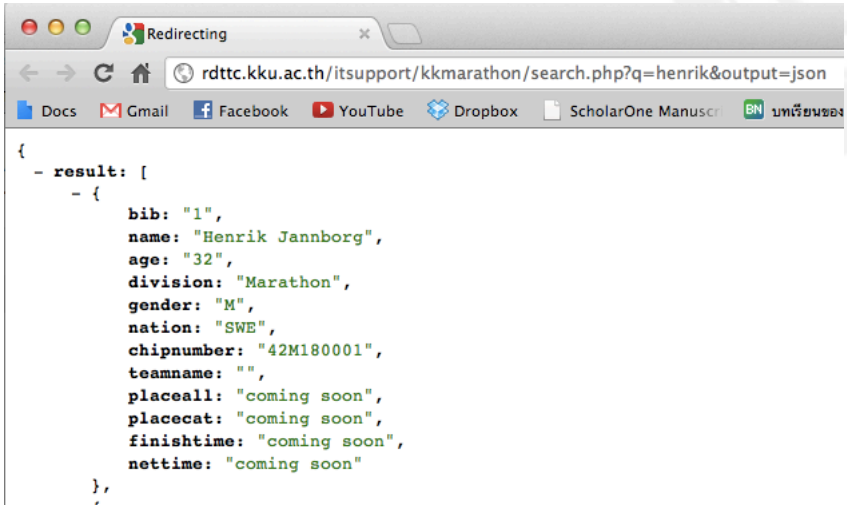
JSON

- JSON (JavaScript Object Notation) is a lightweight data-interchange format. It is easy for humans to read and write
- It is easy for machines to parse and generate.
- JSON is a text format that is completely language independent
- JSON is built on two structures:
  - A collection of name/value pairs
  - An ordered list of values

REST (Using JSON) Example



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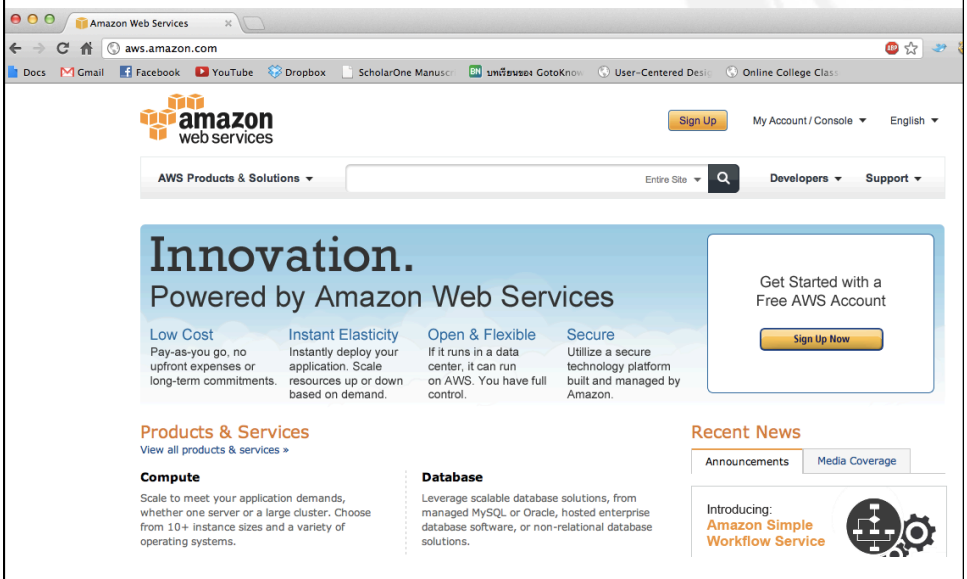
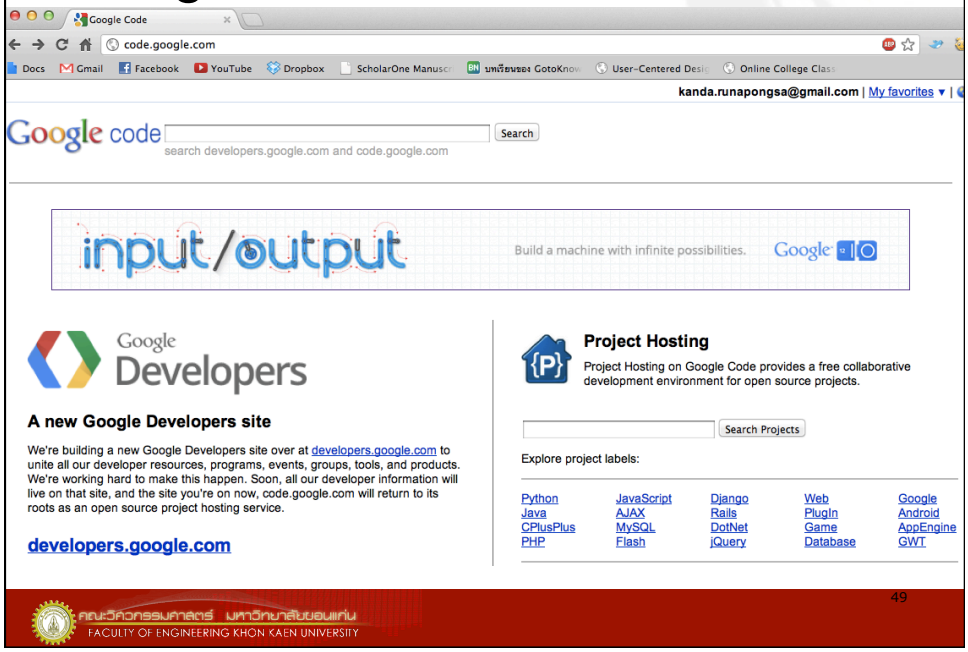
Amazon Web Services

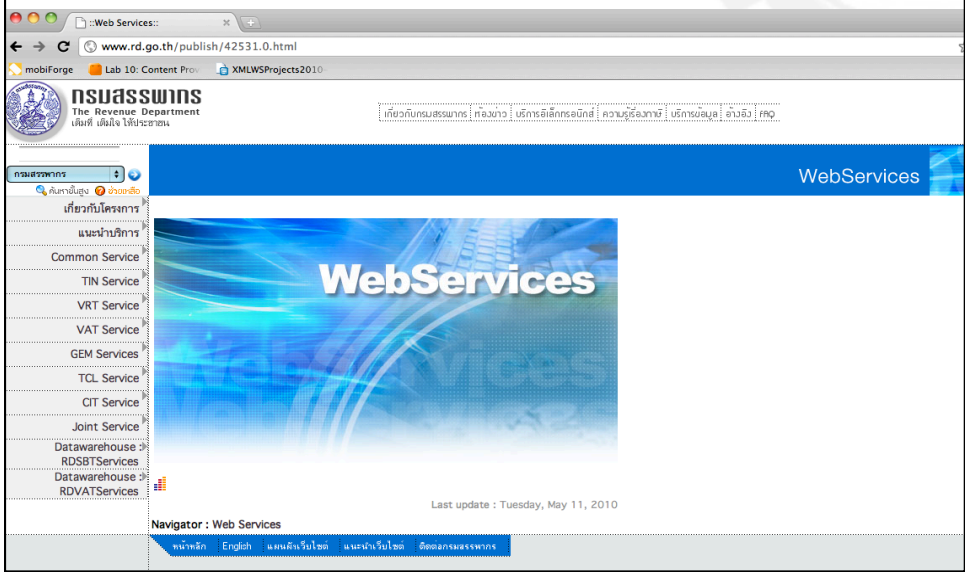


Google Code



e-Revenue Web Services (1/2)

- http://www.rd.go.th/publish/42531.0.html



e-Revenue Web Services (2/2)

- Create service oriented organization by providing professional services to citizens to improve efficiency and fairness in tax collection
- Serve as a catalyst in driving e-services / e-commerce take up via business partnership
- Sample services: PIN/TIN Verification Info, VAT Refund for Tourist info

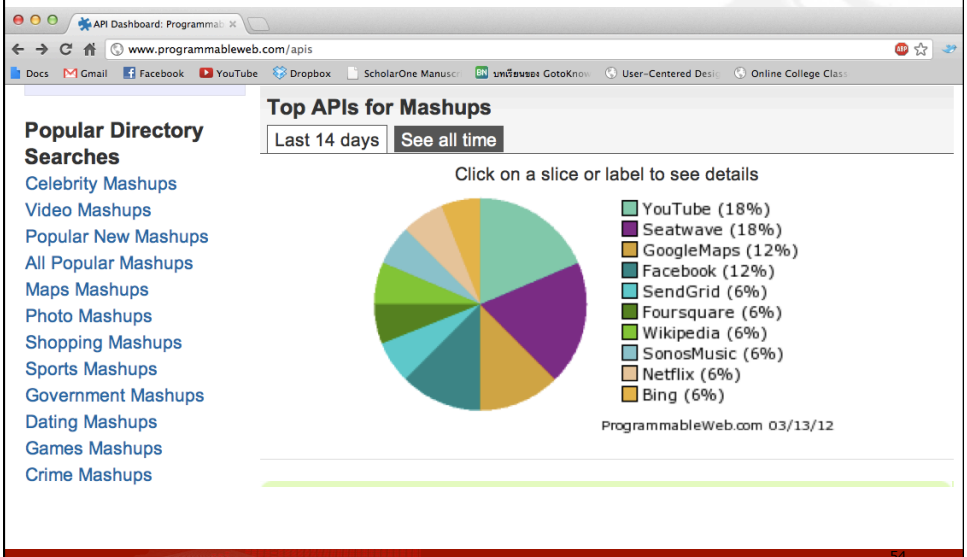
PTT Information Web Services (1/2)

http://www.pttplc.com/pttinfo.asmx

PTT Information Web Services (2/2)

- The users can get the information about oil price and news related to oil
- Support these five operations
  - GetOilPrice
  - CurrentOilPrice
  - GetNews
  - CurrentNews

Search for Web APIs and Mashups



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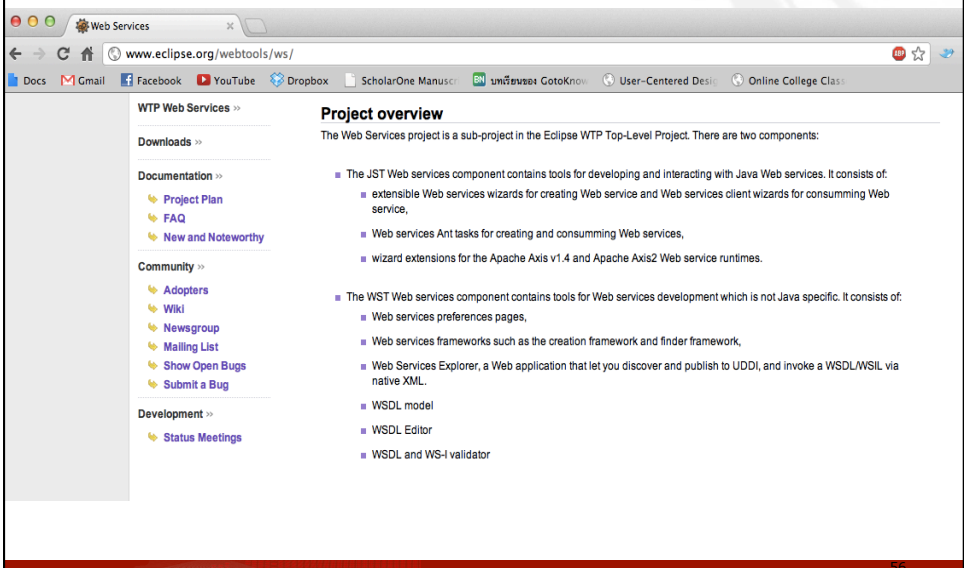
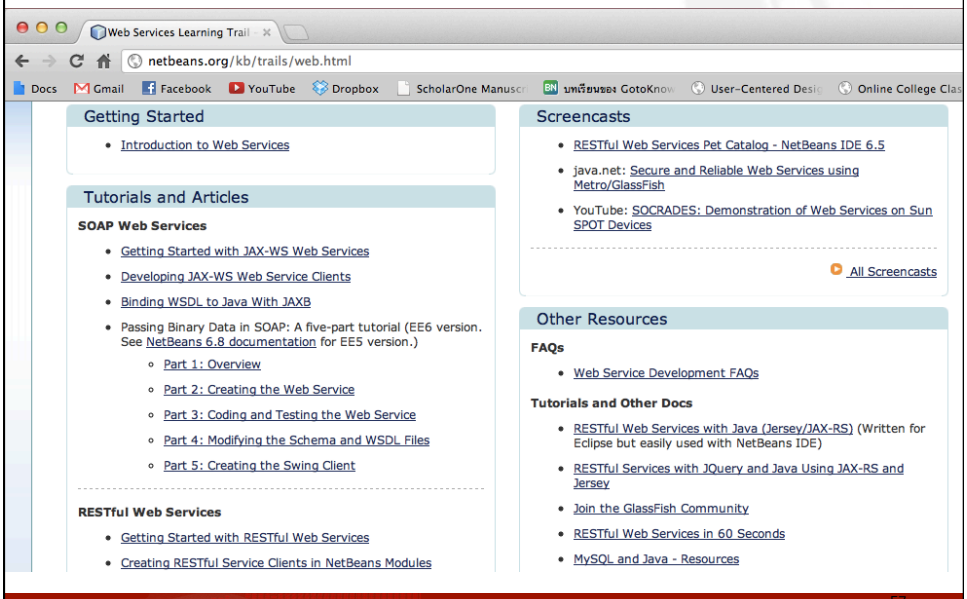
Eclipse Web Tools Platform (WTP) Project



NetBeans



Summary

- Web services technology exists for making different systems seamlessly work together
  - XML and JSON are the languages of exchange data
- Web services have been developed and used extensively in many countries
- Thailand should develop and employ Web services technology more for the benefits of sharing and exchanging data as well as increasing the number of mobile apps

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