DYNAMIC INVOCATION OF CORBA THROUGH WEB SERVICES

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Abstract

The work carried out during this research covers the interoperability between CORBA servers and Web Service Clients. This interoperability was achieved by dynamically converting SOAP messages to HOP messages and vice versa. The solution was implemented in Java programming language as a module for the popular Apache Axis2[1] web service engine. This module is capable of generating the proxy web services dynamically at run time in order to invoke remote CORBA servers. The proxy web service generation is driven by an IDL file which describes the the target CORBA service.

This CORBA module for Apache Axis2 has the capability of generating WSDL description of the proxy web services based on the provided IDL file at run time. The module translates all the IDL data types to corresponding XSD data types during the WSDL generation. The module supports all the IDL data types defined in the OMG IDL 3.0 specification. The performance of the solution was compared against regular web services and a proprietary product. The solution shows a small overhead against the regular web services. However, there is no significant difference between the performance shown by the solution and the proprietary system.

The HOP messages, SOAP messages and the WSDL descriptions generated by the module conforms the OMG CORBA 3.0[2], W3C SOAP Version 1.2[3] and W3C WSDL 1.1 [4] standards respectively. The mapping between CORBA and Web Service data types conforms CORBA to WSDL/SOAP Interworking Specification Version 1.2 [5] published by OMG.

I hereby declare that the work included in this dissertation has not been submitted in part or whole for any other academic qualification at any institution.

J.M.K. Eranga Jayasundera

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Table of Contents

| Abstract | |
|---|------|
| Acknowledgments | v |
| Index of Figures | viii |
| Index of Tables | ix |
| Index of Code Listings | X |
| Symbols, Notations, Abbreviations and Acronyms | xi |
| 1 Introduction | 1 |
| 2 Background | 3 |
| 2.1 Common Object Request Broker Architecture (CORBA) | 3 |
| 2.1.1 Object Request Broker (ORB) | 3 |
| 2.1.2 Internet Inter-ORB Protocol (IIOP) | 4 |
| 2.1.3 OMG Interface Definition Language (OMG IDL) | 4 |
| 2.1.4 Dynamic Invocation Interface (DII) | 4 |
| 2.1.5 Interoperable Object Reference (IOR) | 4 |
| 2.1.5 Interoperable Object Reference (IOR) | 5 |
| 2.2.1 Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) | 5 |
| 2.2.1 Web Service Description Language (WSDL) | 5 |
| 2.2.2 WS-* Specifications | 5 |
| 2.2.3 Apache Axis2 | 6 |
| 3 Motivation and Research Goals | 7 |
| 4 Literature Review | 8 |
| 5 System Overview | 10 |
| 5.1 The XML configuration file and the IDL file | 11 |
| 5.2 IDL Driven WSDL Generation | 13 |
| 5.3 Mapping IDL Data Types to XML Schema Data Types | 14 |
| 6 Implementation Approach | 16 |
| 6.1 SOAP Processing Model of Apache Axis | 16 |
| 6.2 The Components of Axis2 CORBA Module | |
| 6.2.1 CORBA Message Receivers | |
| 6.2.2 The CORBA Invoker | 18 |
| 6.2.3 The IDI Parser | 19 |

| 6.2.4 The Pluggable Deployer Model | 20 |
|--|----|
| 6.2.5 WSDL Generation | 21 |
| 6.2.6 Optimization | 21 |
| Performance Testing | 22 |
| 7.1 Overhead caused by the CORBA module | 22 |
| 7.2 Performance Comparison against a Propitiatory System | 25 |
| 8 Future Work | 28 |
| Onclusion | 29 |
| 10 References | 30 |
| Appendix – User Guide | 32 |





Index of Figures

| Figure 1: Using an Inter-ORB protocol for communication between ORBs | 3 |
|---|----|
| Figure 2: System sequence diagram of an example scenario | 11 |
| Figure 3: WSDL generated by the IDL file shown in the Listing 1 | 14 |
| Figure 4: The SOAP processing model of Apache Axis2 | 16 |
| Figure 5: Structure Apache Axis2 web service engine with the CORBA module | 17 |
| Figure 6: Syntax tree for the IDL shown in Listing 4 | 20 |
| Figure 7: Graph showing the results of the first performance test | 24 |
| Figure 8: Graph showing the results of the second performance test | 26 |



Index of Tables

| Table 1: IDL data types to XML Schema Definition (XSD) types mapping used by the system. | 15 |
|--|----|
| Table 2: Results of the first performance test | 24 |
| Table 3: Results of the second performance test | 26 |



Index of Code Listings

| Sting 1: Sample IDL file | 12 |
|--|----|
| Insting 2: Sample web service configuration file | |
| Listing 3: Some useful methods provided by CORBA Invoker API | |
| 1 isting 4: A simple IDL description | 19 |
| Listing 5: Change to the Axis2 configuration file to enable CORBA module | 20 |
| Listing 6: The class which was exposed as Web Services | 22 |
| Listing 7: SOAP Request Message | 23 |
| Listing 8: Expected SOAP response message | 23 |



Symbols, Notations, Abbreviations and Acronyms

COABA - Common Object Request Broker

OMG - Object Management Group

ORB - Object Request Broker

IIOP - Internet Inter-ORB Protocol

IDL - Interface Description Language

DII - Dynamic Invocation Interfac

IOR - Interoperable Object Reference

W3C - World Wide Web Consortium

SOAP - Simple Object Access Protocol

WSDL - Web Service Description Language

WS-* - Web Service Specifications

XML - Extensible Markup Language

XSD - XML Schema Definition



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